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## THE ARMY.

### WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, March 22, 1873.  
[Circular.]

The following extract from paragraph 11 of the Revised Advertising and Job Printing Regulations of the War Department, dated August 1, 1870, is published for the information and benefit of all persons concerned:

"11. Publishers of official newspapers are notified that claims for advertisements copied from other papers, without authority from the Secretary of War, will not be paid unless they are in strict accordance with law; [see note] nor will any allowance be made for displayed advertisements, except for a line or two in the headings, nor for leading. Advertisements must be set up close."

In view of the general tendency to an increase of the expenditure for the public advertising, and it being desired to keep this expenditure to the lowest possible amount consistent with the necessities and the well-being of the service, the attention of officers of the Army and publishers of official newspapers is earnestly invited to the rules and directions contained in the foregoing extract; and they are hereby respectfully informed that these rules and directions will be strictly adhered to in the audit and settlement of accounts against the War Department for advertising.

WM. W. BELKNAP, Secretary of War.

Official: H. T. CROSBY, Chief Clerk.

NOTE.—"AN ACT making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and for other purposes."

"SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, That no advertisement, notice, or proposal for any executive department of the Government, or for any bureau thereof, or for any office therewith connected, shall be published in any newspaper whatever, except in pursuance of a written authority for such publication from the head of such department; and no bill for any such advertising, or publication, shall be paid, unless there be presented, with such bill, a copy of the written authority aforesaid."

Approved July 15, 1870.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1873.

[Circular.]

So much of Circular dated September 20, 1867, from this office, as authorizes officers to employ counsel without first obtaining the sanction of the War Department is revoked. The law now precludes the payment of counsel for services unless first authorized by the Department of Justice.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1873.

General Orders No. 41.

The following acts of Congress are published in this order:

- I. AN ACT for the relief of Henry B. Mears.
- II. AN ACT for the relief of S. P. Jocelyn.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1873.

General Orders No. 42.

The following act of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

AN ACT to confer upon the Superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy the power to convene General Courts-martial.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy shall have power to convene general courts-martial for the trial of cadets, and to execute the sentences of such courts, except the sentences of suspension and dismissal, subject to the same limitations and conditions now existing as to other general courts-martial.

Approved March 3, 1873.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, March 22, 1873.

General Orders No. 44.

This order publishes the "act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1874," which was inserted in the JOURNAL of last week.

WASHINGTON, March 22, 1873.

General Orders No. 46.

The following acts of Congress are published for the information and government of all concerned:

I. AN ACT to place colored persons who enlisted in the Army on the same footing as other soldiers as to bounty and pension.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all colored persons who enlisted in the Army during the late war, and who are now prohibited from receiving bounty and pension on account of being borne on the rolls of their regiments as "slaves," shall be placed on the same footing, as to bounty and pension, as though they had not been slaves at the date of their enlistment.

Approved March 3, 1873.

II. AN ACT to extend the time for filing claims for additional bounty under the act of July 28, 1866.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time for filing claims for additional bounty, under the act of July 28, 1866, and which expired by limitation January 30, 1873, be, and the same is hereby, revived and extended until January 30, 1874; and that all claims for such bounties filed in the proper department after the 30th day of January, 1873, and before the passage of this act, shall be deemed to have been filed in due time, and shall be considered and decided without filing.

Approved March 3, 1873.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, March 24, 1873.

General Orders No. 51.

The following letter from the Secretary of the Treasury invites attention to neglect on the part of certain officers of the Army to comply with the requirements of General Orders No. 65, of 1868, and the Circular dated War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, March 1, 1873:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 8, 1873.

"Hon. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

"SIR: With a view to giving this Department the necessary information to enable it properly to transact the business arising under the provisions of the act of May 2, 1866, entitled 'An act to facilitate the settlement of the accounts of the Treasurer of the United States, and to secure certain moneys to the people of the United States, or to persons to whom they are due, and who are entitled to receive the same,' I have the honor to request that you will cause the attention of the disbursing officers of your Department to be again called to the last clause of the 6th section of said act, which makes it obligatory upon them to report yearly all checks issued by them remaining unpaid and outstanding for three years or more.

"I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
GEO. S. BOUTWELL, Secretary."

So far as practicable, the officers who have omitted to make the required reports will forward them without delay; and a strict compliance with the terms of the law is, for the future, enjoined upon all officers to whom it applies.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1873.

General Orders No. 54.

General Orders No. 10, February 9, 1871, from this office, is hereby so modified as to authorize hereafter a reward for the recovery of lost or stolen animals of twenty-five dollars each; and in case of stolen animals, an additional reward of \$25 for the arrest, conviction, and due punishment of the thief.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, March 28, 1873.

General Orders No. 57.

In view of the limited appropriations granted by Congress for the expenses of the War Department for certain purposes, it is hereby ordered that all expenditures for building material and the construction and repair of buildings which require to be paid from the appropriation for barracks and quarters for the current fiscal year be suspended, and that no further expenditures be made for these purposes until the beginning of the next fiscal year.

It is also ordered that all civilians employed upon the construction and repair of such buildings be discharged and enlisted men so employed be relieved from such duty, until further orders; and that the pay of extra duty men employed upon such construction and repair of buildings, which may be a charge upon the appropriation for incidental expenses of the Quartermaster's Department shall cease from the date of the receipt of this order.

Commanding generals of divisions and departments will require their chief quartermasters to report to the Secretary of War, through the Quartermaster-General, without delay, in detail, the sums expended in their several divisions and departments for the rent or hire of quarters for troops and for officers on military duty; for storehouses for the safe-keeping of military stores; for officers; for ground for camps or cantonments, and for temporary frontier stations; for construction and repair of temporary huts, or stables, and other military buildings at established posts, and for repair of buildings occupied by the Army, giving the location of each building or piece of ground, and the sum paid for the rent or hire of each. Also the amounts expended during the first half of the present fiscal year in the construction and repair of temporary huts, stables, and other military buildings in use by the Army in their respective divisions or departments.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

Casualties among the commissioned officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's office during the week ending Saturday, March 22, 1873.

Second Lieutenant De Hart G. Quinby, Fifth Infantry.—Died at New York city March 10, 1873.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending March 31, 1873.

Tuesday, March 25.

Discharged.—Private Clarence H. Earle, Company C, Second Cavalry.

Transferred.—Private Robert H. Walker, Company K, Eighteenth Infantry, to the Twenty-third Infantry.

On the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, Major Franklin Harwood, Corps of Engineers, will relieve, temporarily, Major George L. Gillespie, Corps of Engineers, of all the works and surveys in his hands pertaining to the War Department, and of the charge of the 10th Light-house District under the Treasury Department, and Major Gillespie, upon being thus relieved, will report to Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan for temporary duty under his orders.

Wednesday, March 26.

Sergeant William Monaghan and Bugler Frank Hunter, Battery A, First Artillery, having completed the duty assigned them in Special Orders No. 22, March 9, 1873, from headquarters Fort Barrancas, Florida, will return to their station at Fort Barrancas without unnecessary delay.

The leave of absence granted Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas H. Neill, Sixth Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 205, December 18, 1872, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, is extended five months.

A General Court-martial is hereby appointed to meet at Fort Whipple, Virginia, on the 27th day of March, 1873, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Privates William Gouldthorpe and Henry S. Berlin, Signal Service detachment U. S. Army, and such other prisoners as may be brought before it. Detail for the court: First Lieutenant R. P. Strong, Fourth Artillery, acting signal officer; First Lieutenant H. H. C. Dunwoody, Fourth Artillery, acting signal officer; First Lieutenant George S. Grimes, Second Artillery, acting signal officer; First Lieutenant C. E. Kilbourne, Second Artillery, acting signal officer; Second Lieutenant C. C. Wolcott, Third Artillery, acting signal officer. First Lieutenant Robert Craig, Fourth Artillery, acting signal officer, judge-advocate.

Discharged.—Second Class Private John Patton, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army; Second Class Private Peter Riordan, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army; Private Charles Wires, Company F, Seventeenth Infantry.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Augustus R. Egbert, Second Infantry, in Special Orders No. 1, January 3, 1873, from headquarters Military Division of the South, is extended six months on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Thursday, March 27.

Discharged.—Hospital Steward John S. Perkins, U. S. Army.

Major Henry C. Bankhead, Fourth Cavalry (promoted from captain Eighth Cavalry), will proceed to join his proper station in the Department of Texas.

Major James Biddle, Sixth Cavalry (promoted from captain First Cavalry), will proceed without delay to join his proper station in the Department of the Missouri.

A board of medical officers, to consist of Surgeon John Campbell and Assistant Surgeon Curris E. Munn, is appointed to meet at Newport, Rhode Island, April 1 next, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to examine into and report upon the present mental and physical condition of Captain A. H. Holgate, Corps of Engineers. The proceedings of the board will, upon their completion, be forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

Paragraph 4, Special Orders No. 611, December 8, 1866, from this office, directing that the pay of First Lieutenant T. S. Kirtland, Thirty-sixth Infantry (now captain Seventh Infantry), be suspended until certain accounts due from him were filed in this office, is modified so as to direct that the sum of \$280.16, for which he is accountable to the United States, be stopped from his pay, after which regular payments to him will be resumed.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Hospital Steward Louis Pauly, U. S. Army, is relieved from duty in the Department of the Platte, and will report in person to the commanding general Department of the Lakes for assignment to duty.

Discharged.—Private John E. Stedman, Company E, Fourteenth Infantry.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Eighth Cavalry are announced: Captain S. K. Schwenk, from Company F to Company M; Captain A. P. Caraher, from Company M, to Company F.

On the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, the following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Corps of Engineers are made: Major Godfrey Weitzel will proceed to Detroit, Michigan, where he will take station and relieve Major Poe of the charge of all the works and surveys in his hands under the War Department, and of the charge of the Eleventh light-house district under the Treasury Department; Major Charles R. Suter is relieved from duty under the orders of Colonel Simpson, and, taking station at St. Louis, Missouri, will relieve Colonel Simpson of his duties in connection with the "improvement of the Mississippi, Missouri, and Arkansas rivers," and of the "White and St. Francis rivers," and of the survey of the Forked Deer river, Tennessee; Captain W. H. H. Benyaurd is relieved from duty under the immediate orders of Colonel Macomb, and will proceed to Monroe, Louisiana, where he will take station, and relieve Colonel Simpson of the charge of the improvements of the Ouachita river in Louisiana and Arkansas, and of the Yazoo river in Mississippi;

First Lieutenant Thomas Turtle is relieved from duty under the immediate orders of Colonel Benham, and will proceed to Baltimore, Maryland, and report to Major Craigbill for duty; Major Francis U. Farquhar is relieved from duty under the State Department, and will proceed to St. Paul, Minnesota, where he will take station and relieve Major Houston of the charge of the harbor improvements on Lake Superior, west of Marquette, and Colonel Macomb of the charge of the preservation of the falls of St. Anthony, the improvement of the Minnesota river, the construction of Meeker's Island lock and dam, and the surveys of Red and Galena rivers.

Friday, March 28.

As soon as existing requisitions have been filled, the superintendent General Recruiting Service will cause to be prepared and forwarded under proper charge from depot to the posts indicated the following detachments of recruits, each detachment to be reported upon arrival at its destination to the commanding officer of the post for assignment as follows:

Eleven to Charlotte, North Carolina, for Battery D, Second Artillery; ten to Raleigh, North Carolina, for Battery F, Second Artillery; ten to Raleigh, North Carolina, for Battery G, Second Artillery; twenty-one to Raleigh, North Carolina, for Battery I, Second Artillery; nineteen to Fort Johnston, North Carolina, for Battery M, Second Artillery; nineteen to Fort Adams, Rhode Island, for Light Battery F, Fifth Artillery. These recruits will be selected from men willing to serve with a mounted battery. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Inspector-General Nelson H. Davis will proceed to make certain inspections in accordance with a letter of special instructions that will be furnished him.

The leave of absence granted Assistant Surgeon Charles Styer in S. O. No. 309, November 29, 1872, from this office, is extended to include May 10, 1873.

Transferred.—Bugler Thomas Horan, Battery L, First Artillery, to Battery B, Third Artillery.

Saturday, March 29.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Edward S. Holden, Corps of Engineers, has been accepted by the President to take effect March 28, 1873.

Discharged.—Private D. E. Gregory, alias David Elmore, Company F; Private M. F. Jones, alias Richard Warren, Company G; Private Josiah S. Rigdon, Company H, Sixth U. S. Cavalry; Corporal Adam Kramer, ordnance detachment, U. S. Army; Recruit John R. Ferrerty, U. S. Army.

#### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Headquarters Fourth Cavalry, from Fort Concho, Tex., to Fort Clark, Tex.  
Companies A and E, Ninth Cavalry, from Fort Clark, Tex., to Fort Concho, Tex.  
Companies G, H, and K, Ninth Cavalry, from Fort Clark, Tex., to King's Barracks, Tex.  
Companies B and D, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Gibson, I. T., to Fort Concho, Tex.  
Companies C and D, Tenth Cavalry, from Camp Supply, I. T., to Fort Sill, I. T.

#### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Captain H. A. Du Pont, Fifth Artillery, March 27 was directed to proceed from West Point, New York, to Fort Adams, Rhode Island, for the purpose of preparing and forwarding the returns of public property for which he is responsible. Having completed this duty, Captain Du Pont will return to his present station. (S. O. No. 16, c. s.) Leave of absence for three months was granted Colonel Henry D. Wallen, Second Infantry, on surgeon's certificate of disability, March 27. (S. O. No. 16, c. s.)

Colonel John E. Tourtellotte, aide-de-camp, was ordered April 1 to West Point, N. Y., on duty connected with department headquarters, upon completion of which he will return to Washington. The leave of absence for thirty days granted First Lieutenant J. P. Walker, Third Cavalry, in S. O. No. 33, of February 28, 1873, from headquarters Department of the Platte, is extended sixty days. (S. O. No. 17, April 1.)

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Headquarters Chicago, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brigadier-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

The Department Commander, Brigadier-General Terry, March 22 proceeded from St. Paul, Minn., to New York city, on public business. First Lieutenant E. B. Gibbs, Sixth Infantry, aide-de-camp, accompanied him. Major O. D. Greene, A. A. G. of the Department, also accompanied the department commander from St. Paul, Minn., to Chicago, Ill., March 23, for the purpose of receiving verbal instructions on important public business. When relieved from this duty Major Greene was ordered to resume his proper station without delay.

In accordance with directions from headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, the commanding officer of Fort Buford, D. T., March 23 was ordered to furnish, upon the application of Major G. A. Forsyth, acting aide-de-camp to the Lieutenant-General of the Army, such escorts and rations as he may require for the execution of special instructions from the division commander.

Taking Affidavits Regarding Ordnance Lost.—The Secretary of War decides that the legitimate expenses incurred in taking affidavits regarding the loss of ordnance will be paid by the Quartermaster's Department to the notary who rendered the service, but it cannot reimburse an officer for any outlay.

Fort Ellis, M. T.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Ellis, M. T., April 10. Detail for the court: Captains D. P. Hancock, Seventh Infantry; Edward Ball, Lewis Thompson, G. L. Tyler, S. H.

Norton; First Lieutenants J. G. McAdams, S. T. Hamilton, G. C. Doane; Second Lieutenants E. J. McClermand, C. B. Schofield, L. H. Jerome, C. F. Roe, Second Cavalry. First Lieutenant F. C. Grugan, Second Cavalry, judge-advocate.

Indian Scouts.—The following order, regarding Indian scouts, has been published by General Terry, commanding Department:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA, }  
ST. PAUL, MINN., March 6, 1873. }

General Orders No. 19.

During the last five years "Indian scouts," enlisted under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved July 28, 1866, have been employed at many of the military posts of this Department. As a rule, they have renounced entirely their former habits and modes of life, and in assuming the uniform of the military service they have conformed to its requirements in a manner worthy of all praise and of the emulation of their white comrades. They have performed the same duties as are imposed upon white soldiers serving on the frontier, with a prompt obedience, with a cheerful alacrity, courage, skill, and intelligence, which have won the highest applause from their military superiors. The department commander desires that his high appreciation of their services in the past shall be made known to every scout in the command, accompanied by the assurance that their good conduct has been brought to the attention of those still higher in military rank and command, and is duly appreciated by them. To this end he directs that each and every post commander where scouts are employed shall cause this order to be, under his personal supervision, so read and interpreted to them that all shall fully understand the degree of commendation intended.

In addition to the commendation hereinbefore expressed and intended to apply to all the scouts, the following individual instances of good conduct have attracted the Department commander's attention, and are by him deemed worthy of special mention, viz.:

Extract from the report of Colonel D. S. Stanley, Twenty-second Infantry, commanding the "Yellowstone Expedition," dated October 28, 1872.

"First Lieutenant Eben Crosby, Seventeenth Infantry, left his camp to hunt, and when about one and a half miles from camp, was surrounded and murdered by 100 mounted Sioux. The day before this murder this same party had discovered the five Santee scouts who had served me during the summer, and whom I had sent to Fort Rice with despatches. The wild Sioux attacked these brave fellows at sunrise, at Heart Butte, and kept up the fight for nearly fifty miles, and during the entire day. The Santees were well armed, had 100 rounds each, and they kept their assailants off and came off themselves with the loss of two of their horses, and their blankets, clothing, and some accoutrements, which they dropped to lighten their horses. I recommend these brave Santees to the notice of the commander of the Department."

The names of the scouts above referred to are, Chaska, Hepakakwajidan, Kapojan, Omanisa, and Waakakahan. Extract from report of Colonel T. L. Crittenden, Seventeenth Infantry, commanding Fort Rice, D. T., dated November 11, 1872:

"A Sioux Indian by the name of 'Goose,' . . . carried the despatch (to Colonel Stanley, commanding Yellowstone Expedition), and brought back an answer in eight days from his departure. It is needless to speak of the extreme peril he encountered, or to say that except through Indians no such rapid communication could have been had with Colonel Stanley. Attention is also asked to the conduct of 'Cold Hand,' also a Sioux scout at this post. Some time last summer, during my absence from the post, a party of Indians stole most of the horses belonging to the scouts at this post, and carried them beyond the Yellowstone. Cold Hand, accompanied by four Indians that he induced to follow him, pursued and overtook these robbers, recaptured his horses, and brought them safely back. Only about ten days since, Cold Hand, with three other scouts, all Sioux, left here with the mail for Grand River. On the way, they were attacked by a party about thirty strong. Cold Hand and his party repulsed these Indians, wounding one badly, and captured two horses, which, together with the mail, they delivered safely at Grand River. When it is remembered that the Indians who attacked these scouts belong to the Sioux tribe, and live at Grand River, when not at war, and that the duty of the scouts requires them to go to Grand River weekly, I think the conduct of these scouts can only be regarded as very remarkable for fidelity and courage. I even think it worthy of some notice from the War Department, and I am sure that such notice would do good."

The Department commander takes great pleasure in recommending all the above named scouts to the notice of the President of the United States, and in requesting for them the "Certificate of Merit" authorized by the 17th section of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1847.

By command of Brigadier-General Terry.

O. D. GREENE, Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, }  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KAS., March 17, 1873. }

General Orders No. 5.

The Department commander takes pleasure in announcing to the officers and enlisted men of his command the gallant and meritorious conduct of Sergeant J. F. Rowalt, Corporal John Foos, and Privates A. P. Davis and John Wilson, all of Troop L, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, in a fight, on the 26th ultimo, with a band of seventeen marauding Kiowas. The sergeant and party, accompanied by five or six citizens, pursued the Indians, overtook them in an almost inaccessible canon eighteen miles from Fort Bascom, N. M., and, notwithstanding the superior advantages of the Indians' position, succeeded in dislodging and dispersing them, killing five and

wounding three. Sergeant Rowalt and party have the thanks of the Department commander, who commends their example to the officers and enlisted men of his command.

By command of Brigadier-General Pope.

R. WILLIAMS, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Official:

C. S. JESLEY, Captain 7th U. S. Cavalry, A. D. C.

Daniel Short, E. M. Deming, of Arkansas city, J. H. Davis, of Chillicothe, Mo., and an Englishman named Robert Pool, were murdered March 19 on Cinnamon river, by Indians of Whirlwind's marauding band of Cheyennes. An expedition has been organized at Arkansas city to go to the relief of surveying parties on the Cinnamon. Much excitement prevails on the frontier.

Fifth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was granted Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Woods, March 25.

From the headquarters Fifth Infantry, Fort Leavenworth, Kas., March 25, 1873, Colonel Miles issued the following General Order relative to the death of Lieutenant Quinby: It is the sad duty of the colonel commanding to announce to this regiment the death of one of our number, Second Lieutenant De Hart G. Quinby, who died in New York city on the 10th instant, while on leave of absence. Lieutenant Quinby, son of General Isaac F. Quinby late of the Army, was appointed a second lieutenant in this regiment November 1, 1866, was on duty for a short time at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and joined his company (F), at Fort Reynolds, C. T., in July, 1867. Endowed by nature with unusual attractiveness of person, of active intellect and engaging manners, he easily won and retained the friendship and admiration of his associates, while his intrepidity and sound judgment, exhibited on many occasions, and in a marked degree while in command of a detachment on duty suppressing disorders in the Indian Territory in the spring of 1872, warranted high hopes of efficient and brilliant service in his profession, had his life been spared and had duty called him to important command. The commanding officer expresses his own conviction, and he is confident that he is joined in it by the officers of the regiment, when he states that by the death of Lieutenant Quinby the service has lost one of its brightest and most promising young officers. In token of respect for the memory of the deceased the officers of the regiment will wear the customary badges of mourning upon the left arm and sword hilt during the next thirty days.

By command of Colonel Nelson A. Miles.

G. W. BAIRD, 1st Lieut. 5th Infantry, Adj't.

Par. 1, S. O. No. 3, c. s., from department headquarters, granting leave of absence for thirty days to First Lieutenant E. L. Randall, March 27 was revoked, he having declined to avail himself of it.

Sixth Cavalry.—Brevet Brigadier-General Thomas H. Neill, U. S. Army, lieutenant-colonel Sixth Cavalry, left, Saturday, March 29, for Europe, on a five months' leave of absence. He proposes to visit the Exposition of Vienna, and such other places of interest as will be of benefit to himself as an Army officer, and, inferentially, to the Army at large.

Companies I and K, under the command of the senior officer present, were directed to march from Fort Harker, Kas., on the 2d of April, via Forts Larned and Dodge, Kas., to Camp Supply, I. T., and report to the commanding officer of that post, as part of its permanent garrison. On the arrival of these companies at Camp Supply, the two companies of the Tenth U. S. Cavalry at that post will be put in march to Fort Sill, I. T., where they will be reported to the post commander. A. A. Surgeon T. B. Chase, U. S. Army, was directed to accompany the command to Camp Supply, and, on its arrival thereat, will return to Fort Hays, where he will take post.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

Major Alex. J. Perry, chief quartermaster of the Department, March 20 was ordered to Keokuk, Iowa, on public business, on completion of which he will return to his station, Omaha, Neb.

Third Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Second Lieutenant Charles Morton, March 22.

Thirteenth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Second Lieutenant S. E. Blunt, March 22. At the expiration of his leave, Lieutenant Blunt will report at department headquarters, for special duty under the orders of Captain W. A. Jones, Corps of Engineers.

#### Target Practice for February.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I enclose a report of target practice for February from Camp Stambaugh, 9,000 feet above the level of the sea. It shows the unabated interest in target practice, and the difficulties which the troops have to encounter. In the remarks of this officer on his report, it is stated that "under the most favorable aspect of the weather it is questionable if men, firing with burnished guns over a solid field of snow, can attain anything like satisfactory results." This remark is quoted with a view of calling attention to the practice of our Ordnance Department of supplying the infantry with this sort of weapon, which, in an Indian country, makes it almost impossible to conceal the movements of troops, and, as is known to every marksman, interferes seriously with the accuracy of aim. The arms now furnished the troops, in all but one other respect, are the best, perhaps, furnished to any army in the world, and are really a credit to the Ordnance Department. Why, then, can they not brown them, and furnish the means of renewing the browning? It is neither an expensive nor difficult operation, and if a report were called for from captains of companies in the field, I am quite sure eight out of ten would report against the burnished musket. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. O. C. ORD, Brigadier-General.

OMAHA, NEB., March 23, 1873.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF TARGET PRACTICE AT CAMP STAMBAUGH,  
W. T., FEBRUARY, 1873.

	Distance from target—yards.	Number of shots fired.	Number of hits.	Average distance from center in inches.	Remarks.
Feb'y, 1873.	300	492	241	23	It is not unusual for the weather to change so suddenly at this post that the target practice, commenced under the most favorable circumstances, has to be suspended before all the men have fired.

(Signed) **ARTHUR MACARTHUR,**  
Captain Thirteenth Infantry, Commanding.  
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

*Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.*

**San Antonio.**—A General Court-martial convened at San Antonio, Texas, March 15. Detail for the court: Major William R. Gibson, paymaster U. S. Army; Captains Samuel T. Cushing, Commissary of Subsistence; Nathaniel Prime, Tenth Infantry; George B. Russell, Ninth Infantry; First Lieutenant Andrew Geddes, Twenty-fifth Infantry. Captain John W. French, Twenty-fifth Infantry, judge-advocate.

**Tenth Infantry.**—A. Surgeon J. J. Paterson March 17 was directed to report to First Lieutenant J. B. Hanson, Tenth Infantry, for duty with a detachment of recruits under orders to Fort Clark. Upon arrival at that post, he was directed to proceed to Fort Duncan, for duty.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted A. A. Surgeon H. M. Stille, U. S. Army, March 14.

**Fourth Cavalry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Second Lieutenant F. L. Shoemaker, March 15. Upon completion of his present payments on the muster of March 28, Major P. P. G. Hall, paymaster, was relieved from duty in this Department, in order to enable him to comply with par. 11, S. O. No. 43, c. s., W. D. A.-G.'s O.

The headquarters of the Fourth Cavalry and the companies of that regiment at Fort Concho and en route to that post, except two, to be designated by the regimental commander, March 14 were transferred to Fort Clark, Texas. Colonel R. S. Mackenzie at the same time was ordered to Fort Clark, Texas, via San Antonio, Texas, to arrange to meet the general commanding, in San Antonio, on the 2d of April. Upon the arrival of the headquarters and companies of the Fourth Cavalry at Fort Clark, Texas, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Merritt, with Companies A and E, Ninth Cavalry, was ordered to Fort Concho, Texas, to take post. Upon being relieved by companies of the Fourth Cavalry, Companies G, H, and K, Ninth Cavalry, were ordered to Ringgold Barracks, Texas, for duty at that post.

**Tenth Cavalry.**—Upon being relieved by troops from the Department of the Missouri, Companies B and H, Tenth Cavalry, at Fort Gibson, I. T., were ordered to Fort Concho, Texas. Second Lieutenant A. Larke March 14 was detailed as additional member of the G. C.-M. instituted by S. O. No. 50, c. s., from department headquarters.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

*Major-General I. McDowell: Hdqrs, Louisville, Ky.*

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

*Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.*

A. A. Surgeon B. J. Byrne, U. S. Army, March 20 was relieved from duty at Oxford, Mississippi, and ordered to Aberdeen, Mississippi, for duty. Upon his arrival A. A. Surgeon William Deal, U. S. Army, was relieved from duty at Aberdeen, Mississippi, and ordered to Jackson Barracks, Louisiana, for duty.

Assistant Surgeon Clarence Ewen, U. S. Army, March 24 was ordered to Little Rock, Arkansas, for duty.

**Payment of Troops.**—Major George L. Febiger, chief paymaster of the Department, March 17 was ordered to Jackson, Miss., and Little Rock, Arkansas, for the purpose of paying the troops at those stations.

**Seventh Cavalry.**—So much of S. O. No. 39, c. s., from department headquarters, as directed Company L to embark March 17, has been modified to read on or about April 1.

**Nineteenth Infantry.**—The headquarters, the band, and Companies B, F, G, and I have been transferred from Baton Rouge, to Jackson Barracks, Louisiana. This movement was ordered to take place to correspond with the departure of Company L, Seventh Cavalry, April 1. Company A March 21 was ordered to return to its proper station. The Lieutenant-Colonel of the Nineteenth Infantry was ordered to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with Company A, of that regiment on its return, and there take post.

Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army, through headquarters Division of the South, for an extension of sixty days, was granted Capt. in Charles W. Hotenpiller, March 19.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

*Major-General W. S. Hancock: Hdqrs, New York.*

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

*Maj.-Gen. W. S. Hancock: Hdqrs, cor. Greene and Houston sts., N. Y.*

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending April 2, 1873: Lieutenant-Colonel George Thom, Corps of Engineers; Colonel Wm. F. Barry, Second Artillery; First Lieutenants Geo. M. Wheeler, Corps of Engineers; Wm. P. Graves, Second Artillery; Lieutenant-Colonel Thos.

H. Neill, Sixth Cavalry; Captains George B. Dandy, A. Q. U. S. Army; C. R. Layton, Sixteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant H. A. Reed, Second Artillery; Colonel P. V. Hagner, Ordnance Corps; Brigadier-General Alfred Terry, U. S. Army; Major M. A. Reno, Seventh Cavalry; Lieutenant Henry Metcalfe, Ordnance Department; Second Lieutenant G. V. Whistler, Fifth Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Montgomery, deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, March 26 was ordered to Fort Standish, Plymouth, Mass., to make an inspection of the public buildings at that post, with the view of ascertaining what repairs, if any, are necessary to put them in proper condition.

**Fifth Artillery.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., April 4. Assistant Surgeon L. Y. Loring, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the Fifth Artillery, were detailed for the court: Captain F. L. Guenther; First Lieutenants C. C. McConnell, Joseph Keefe, S. A. Day. First Lieutenant Willard, judge-advocate.

Leave of absence for fifteen days was granted Captain B. F. Rittenhouse, March 27.

**Third Artillery.**—The General Court-martial instituted in par. 2, S. O. No. 55, c. s., from department headquarters, of which Captain A. C. Wildrick, Third Artillery, is president, reconvened at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., March 28.

**Third Cavalry.**—Leave of absence for twenty days was granted First Lieutenant E. C. Knowler, March 25.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

*Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooks: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.*

Leave of absence for ten days was granted Major L. H. Pelouze, A. A.-G., U. S. Army, March 24.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Niagara, N. Y., at 11 o'clock A. M., April 1. Detail for the court: Captain G. H. Weeks, A. Q., U. S. Army; Assistant Surgeon J. H. Bartholf, U. S. Army; First Lieutenants W. E. Dougherty, First Infantry; F. M. Lynde, First Infantry; C. S. Heintzelman, Third Artillery. First Lieutenant James O'Hara, Third Artillery, judge-advocate.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

*Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Hdqrs San Francisco, Cal.*

#### DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Colonel Robert Allen, A. Q. M.-G., was March 22 assigned as chief quartermaster, Military Division of the Pacific, relieving Lieutenant-Colonel Asher R. Eddy, temporarily assigned as such.

The name of Second Lieutenant Sydney W. Taylor, Fourth Artillery, has been substituted for that of Second Lieutenant John Simpson, in the order directing the former to accompany a detachment to the Modoc country. First Lieutenant Albion Howe, Battery A, Fourth Artillery, in command of Battery K of his regiment, was March 18 ordered to proceed without delay to the Modoc country, reporting to Colonel Gillem. The battery will be equipped for field service. The commanding officer of the Modoc expedition is authorized to attach this battery to Battery A, for temporary duty if he deems it advisable. Second Lieutenant Geo. M. Harris, Battery K, will join his command as soon as relieved from court-martial duty. A. A. Surgeon B. Semig, U. S. Army, will report to Lieutenant Howe, medical officer of his command.

**Twenty-third Infantry.**—Leave of absence for sixty days, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Military Division of the Pacific, was granted First Lieutenant Otis W. Pollock, Twenty-third Infantry, March 15.

**Fourth Cavalry.**—First Lieutenant Wm. A. Thompson, Fourth Cavalry, having transferred the detachment of recruits under his charge to the commanding officer, Benicia Barracks, was March 24 ordered to return to his station, New York city.

**Twenty-first Infantry.**—First Lieutenant John L. Johnston, Twenty-first Infantry, was March 24 ordered to report in person for orders to the commanding officer, Department of the Columbia, at Van Bremer's Ranch, Oregon, via Yreka, California.

**Fourth Artillery.**—First Lieutenant George G. Greenough March 9 was directed to report to the commanding officer of Alcatraz Island, California, for temporary duty at that post until the return of Major Charles H. Morgan, from detached service.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

*Brigadier-General E. R. S. Canby: Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.*

**The Modoc War.**—The Klamath Indian scouts employed in the operations against the Modoc Indians February 27 were ordered to be mustered out of service as of the date of January 20, 1873, the date of actual discharge.

**Twenty-first Infantry.**—Roster of commissioned officers, March 1, 1873:

Colonel—R. S. Granger, Fort Vancouver, W. T., commanding regiment and post.

Lieutenant-Colonel—Frank Wheaton,\* Camp Warner, Oregon, commanding post and district of the Lakes.

Major—Edwin C. Mason,\* Fort Vancouver, W. T., with regiment.

Captains—Thomas S. Dunn (D), Camp Warner, Oregon, commanding company; Richard F. O'Beirne (H), New York city, on temporary duty under orders of Superintendent general recruiting service; Evan Miles (E), Fort Colville, W. T., commanding company and post; Patrick Collins (A), Camp Harney, Oregon, commanding company; George M. Downey (K), Fort Boise, Idaho, commanding company and post; William McC. Netterville (I), on general recruiting service; Harry M. Smith (G), Fort Lapwai, Idaho, commanding company; Wil-

liam Nelson (F), New York city, ordered before Retiring Board; George H. Burton,\* Fort Vancouver, W. T., commanding company; Valentine M. C. Silva (B), Fort Vancouver, W. T., sick.

First Lieutenants—Robert Pollock (F), Fort Klamath, Oregon, commanding company, A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; John L. Johnston (regimental quartermaster), absent with leave on surgeon's certificate; William F. Spurgin (K), Fort Boise, Idaho, A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; William H. Boyle\* (C), Fort Vancouver, W. T., with company; Thomas F. Riley (A), on general recruiting service; George W. Evans (adjutant), Fort Vancouver, W. T., post adjutant, A. A. Q. M., and A. C. S.; Ebenezer W. Stone\* (G), Jacksonville, Oregon, A. A. Q. M.; James A. Haughey (H), Camp San Juan Island, W. T., commanding company and post; Thomas H. Bradley (D), Washington, D. C., on duty in War Department; Edward R. Theller\* (I), Fort Vancouver, W. T., commanding company; John M. Ross\* (B), Fort Vancouver, W. T., commanding company; William L. Sherwood\* (E), Fort Vancouver, W. T., en route to company.

Second Lieutenants—Frederick H. E. Ebstein (H), Camp San Juan Island, W. T., A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; Henry H. Pierce (F), Morgantown, W. V., Professor of Military Science; Edward B. Rheem\* (C), Fort Vancouver, W. T., with company; William J. Ross (K), Prescott, Arizona, aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Crook; Stephen P. Jocelyn (D), Camp Warner, Oregon, with company; William R. Hoag (I), Fort Colville, W. T., temporarily attached to Company E, A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S.; Harry D. W. Moore\* (B), Fort Vancouver, W. T., with company; Robert H. Fletcher (G), Fort Lapwai, Idaho, with company.

\* Temporarily in the field, operating against the Modoc Indians.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

*Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook: Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA, }  
PRESCOTT, March 4, 1873. }

#### General Orders No. 7.

In view of the reported forgery of the signatures of different disbursing officers serving in this Department, and the circulation of fraudulent checks, purporting to have been issued by disbursing officers having no existence, the following instructions relative to blank checks and check books are published for information and guidance:

All the blank checks or check books to be found at any military post or depot in this Department, belonging to the public service, if not already in charge of disbursing officers, will at once be taken possession of by the senior disbursing officer on duty at such post or depot.

Disbursing officers responsible for blank checks or check books will be required to keep them in their personal possession or deposited in safe places, securely locked, the keys in their personal possession.

Disbursing officers will verify by careful examination and comparison, from time to time, the correctness of their check books, and when relieved from duty at any post or depot will either comply with existing regulations of the Treasury Department, relative to the return of blank checks and check books, or turn them over to their successors, taking receipts therefor.

By command of Brevet Major-General Crook.

A. H. NICKERSON,

Captain 23d Infantry, A. D. C., and A. A. A. General.

Dr. V. Havard, A. A. Surgeon, has been relieved from duty at Camp Grant, A. T., and ordered to report in person, for duty, to the commanding officer Camp Hualpai, A. T., relieving Dr. C. W. Harper, who was directed to report in person, for duty, to the commanding officer Cavalry Camp, near Tucson, A. T., relieving Dr. W. W. Bidlack. Dr. S. A. Freeman, A. A. Surgeon, was ordered to report in person, for duty, to the commanding officer Camp Bowie, A. T., relieving Dr. Samuel L. Orr. Upon being relieved in their duties, Drs. W. W. Bidlack and Samuel L. Orr, A. A. Surgeons, were directed to report in person, at the headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, for annulment of their contracts.

**Twenty-third Infantry.**—Captain James Henton, commanding Company B, at Camp Date Creek, A. T., and recently detailed on general recruiting service, arrived at New York city early in the week, and has "commenced business."

**New Camp Grant.**—A correspondent of the *Tucson Citizen*, writing from this post February 28, says: This post is situated near the base of Mt. Graham on the south side, with Mt. Turnbull to the northwest, the Apache Pass and Las dos Cabezas mountains to the southeast, the Dragon mountains to the south, the San Pedro mountains on the west; and as far as the eye can reach southward are to be seen mountain after mountain, their tops covered with snow, some of them in the republic of Mexico, and so far away that they look like clouds suspended in the air. Only three officers are at present at this post: Captain Montgomery, who is in command, Captain Thompson, and Lieutenant Pardee, who is A. A. Q. M. and post adjutant; and with superintending the erection of buildings, receiving and discharging trains loaded with freight which come every few days, Lieutenant Pardee has his hands full. Dr. Clark is post surgeon. The camp presents a lively scene, everybody appearing busy. "No loafing allowed here" seems to be the order. There is a steam saw-mill run by soldiers—sawing lumber for the buildings. Major Morrow was here and paid off the "boys" and thereby gladdened their hearts, after which (23d) he left for Bowie, thence to Apache and back to Tucson. Captain Randall (of Apache) and command, with Lieutenant Brodie, came in here for rations, remained a couple of days, and left for another scout after the hostiles.

**Eighth Cavalry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was granted First Lieutenant H. S. Weeks, March 27.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE *Wabash* and *Wachusett* were at Valetta, Malta, on March 4.

CHIEF-ENGINEER W. W. W. WOOD entered upon his duties as chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering April 1.

THE board of naval officers to examine candidates for promotion in the Navy, and officers for retirement, reconvened at the Navy Department on April 2.

A TELEGRAM from Gibraltar, under date of the 30th instant, reports: "The U. S. ship *Supply*, Commander Babcock, has arrived here. All on board are well."

THE naval rendezvous, which has hitherto been on board the receiving ship *Vermont*, at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, has been removed to the Seamen's Exchange, New York, Captain H. C. Blake, in command.

KING Lunailo, of the Sandwich Islands, has made the tour of his kingdom in the U. S. steamer *Benicia*, on the invitation of Rear-Admiral Pennock. The King will come to San Francisco with General Schofield, to make a tour of the United States.

LIEUTENANT BROWNSON, at present on duty at the Naval Academy, is the possessor of a highly complimentary letter from the present Secretary of the Navy, in acknowledgement of gallant services while in charge of the expedition from the *Mohican*, which cut out and destroyed the piratical cruiser *Porcador* on Teacapan river some time ago.

Mr. W. H. HIGGINS, receiver of stores in the Provision and Clothing Department at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, died on Saturday, March 29, and was buried from his residence in Brooklyn on April 1. Since his engagement at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, in 1862, he has always borne the reputation of being efficient and prompt in the performance of his duties. The death of Pay Clerk J. C. Cross and Master-at-Arms J. M. Byrne, of cholera, on board the *Lackawanna* at Calcutta, is reported.

WE have received a copy of a series of resolutions passed March 20 by the Alpha Sigma Pi Fraternity of Norwich University, Northfield, Vt., "on the death of their brother, Lieutenant-Commander Walter Abbott, U. S. Navy, who died at Funchal, Madeira, February 3, 1873." As a tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased, the emblems of the society are to be draped in mourning for thirty days, and these resolutions entered upon the records of the Fraternity, and copies forwarded to the family and friends of the deceased and furnished to the members of the Fraternity.

WE are glad to learn from Colonel Swann, the commissary of the Naval Academy, that it is not true that the provision car attached to the train which carried the naval cadets to Washington on the 4th of March was sent back to Baltimore with its load by mistake. The provision car, he tells us, was attached to the extra train which carried the midshipmen to Washington, and remained there in charge of two stewards and five waiters, and returned to Annapolis with the midshipmen. They were informed of such a car being provided, and that it would be attached to their train, and remain for their use.

CAPTAIN C. H. WELLS, United States Navy, commanding the U. S. steamer *Shenandoah*, writes us from Nice, France, March 17, 1873, correcting an error which appeared in the JOURNAL of the 15th of February, referring to his having handed over six English deserters [to the captain of the British man-of-war *Rapid*, found on board of the *Shenandoah* after she left Malta. The men referred to Captain Wells landed at the Piræus Greece on the day of his arrival, previously informing the British Consul that he intended doing so; when that gentleman, by permission of the Greek authorities, had them arrested by the native police and taken to H. B. M. *Rapid*. Captain Wells very properly decides that his jurisdiction over these men ceased the moment they touched Greek soil.

AN interesting experiment was made with Dr. Well's "steam disinfecting fumigator," on board the *Puget* at Key West, on the 18th of March. Dr. H. M. Wells is a surgeon in the Navy, and one of his fumigators has been placed in the *Canandaigua*. The experiment was for the purpose of demonstrating how quickly the atmosphere of the entire birth-deck of the *Puget* could be fumigated with the disinfectant. The area of this deck is over 30,000 cubic feet, and the disinfectant passed through the fumigator by the aid of steam. In less than five minutes after the carbolic acid was put into the machine, the atmosphere was so strongly impregnated as to drive everybody upon deck, and perforate every crack and crevice. Bromochloralum was also used in the same manner. This disinfectant is inodorous, yet it could be felt in the eyes and tasted also. The experiments were considered highly satisfactory and successful by those who witnessed them.

REAR-ADMIRAL JOHN B. MONTGOMERY died at Carlisle, Pa., on March 25, 1873. He was a native of New Jersey, and was appointed from that State a midshipman in the Navy on June 4, 1812; commissioned as Lieutenant April 1, 1818, and as commander December 9, 1839, commanded the naval rendezvous, Boston, 1840; commanded the sloop-of-war *Portsmouth*, Pacific Squadron, 1845-48; Navy-yard, Washington, 1850-51; commissioned as captain January 6, 1853; commanded the Pacific Squadron 1860-61; commandant of the Boston Navy-yard 1862-63; commissioned as commodore July 16, 1862; commandant Navy-yard, Washington, 1864-65; commissioned as rear-admiral July 25, 1866; commandant naval station, Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., 1867-69. He was retired December 21, 1861, and had performed

twenty-one years and nine months sea service, and seventeen years and two months shore duty, and had been in the service sixty years and ten months. The remains were interred at Oak Hill Cemetery, Washington, D. C., on March 31. A large number of naval officers were in attendance.

AT the Brooklyn Navy-yard the *Colorado* has been dismantled, her stores unloaded, and in a few days her battery will be taken out and she will be laid up in ordinary. The *Tennessee* still lies in the dry-dock for the convenience of her engine contractors, Messrs. Roach & Sons, who are having her propeller and out-board valves overhauled, and getting the ship ready for her new machinery. Work is continued on the *Alaska* and *Ossipee*, and the former will probably be ready in six weeks, and, it is rumored, will convey Rear-Admiral A. L. Case to the European station, which he will command, relieving Rear-Admiral J. Alden. Considerable progress has been made with the torpedo boat and the *Seaturra*; the former has nearly all her outside planking on, and it is expected in about a week to commence plating her fore, aft, and athwartship bulkheads. Rear-Admiral Rowan's flagship *Frolic* still lies at her winter quarters at the yard, but will shortly return to her station off the Battery; Commander Schoonmaker has the *Frolic* in fine trim, looking exceedingly well, and ready for the reception of her many visitors.

ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF KING leaves the Bureau of Steam Engineering, over which he has presided a full term of four years, with the good wishes of the head of the Department and, in fact, of all who have been associated with him. From the confinement of departmental routine he is transferred to an active and more agreeable duty—the general inspection of the steam department of all the Navy-yards, and the study, with a view to their application to our own service, of the modern improvements of other great maritime powers. He will necessarily visit our Atlantic and Pacific coast and the countries of Europe. It is probable that the general policy of Chief-Engineer Wood will not differ materially from that pursued by his predecessor. Apart from the fact that he was the first on the list of his corps, he has an experience eminently fitting him for the place, having been directly connected with the construction of the machinery of the frigates *Roanoke* and *Colorado*, the sloop of war *Lancaster*, and other vessels, and was the projector of the torpedo boat *Spytlen Duyvel*, which proved of great service in removing the obstructions on the James river. He is an affable and agreeable gentleman, and one who cannot fail to give great satisfaction to those whose business may bring them in contact with his bureau.

THE marine hospital service of the United States has been in existence since 1793, in which year a law was passed by Congress imposing a tax of 20 cents per month on every seaman employed on American commercial vessels, the amounts thus accruing to be devoted to furnishing hospital attendance for sick and disabled seamen in the several American ports. This law was in the year following made to embrace the officers and seamen of the Navy, who continued thereafter to receive the benefits of the fund until the establishment of a separate fund for that purpose in 1811. The first of these hospitals was established in Norfolk, Va., in the year 1800. This was followed by others at Boston, Newport, and Charleston, established previous to 1837. Nothing further in this direction was done until the year mentioned, when Congress, urged to action by numerous petitions pointing out the necessity of hospitals of this character in our sea and lake ports and along our navigable river-courses, appropriated moneys for the erection or purchase of suitable hospital buildings on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and Lake Erie. Later still hospitals were erected or other medical provision was made at all the principal ports on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and along the great lakes and rivers for the benefit of sailors and boatmen. Thirty-three hospital buildings altogether were thus erected from 1800 up to the year 1861, the last built being one at Port Angeles, W. T. The total cost of these buildings amounts to \$3,214,518, and the proceeds of the tax to \$376,879. Of the whole number only seven are now in use, namely, those at Chelsea, Mass.; Pittsburg, Pa.; Cleveland, O.; Key West, Fla.; St. Louis, Mo.; Portland, Me.; and Detroit, Mich. The others have either been sold, destroyed, abandoned, leased for seamen, or are in an unfinished condition. Apart from the regular United States marine hospital service, however, there are hospitals in which seamen are relieved in every trading, marine, or inland port in the United States. These are divided into three classes: First, the United States marine hospitals, leased to and conducted by corporate or private parties; second, local hospitals, exclusively or in part devoted to seamen, at fixed rates established each year; and third, extemporized hospitals to meet the wants of smaller ports, being usually in private dwellings, with rates adjusted for each case of relief. The service, as at present constituted, shows a notable improvement over its condition in former years. This is due to the fact that in 1870 Congress passed a law reorganizing the service, by which the tax on seamen per month was increased to forty cents, and the appointment of a supervising surgeon over the whole system was provided for. This office was first filled in 1871 by the appointment of Dr. John M. Woodworth, and his first annual report, that for the year ending June 30, 1872, has just been published.

A DESPATCH from San Francisco, Cal., March 23, says R. D. Bogart, who is accused of the embezzlement of about \$30,000 while a paymaster's clerk in the Navy, comes before the U. S. Circuit Court to-morrow. If not released, he will be tried by court-martial at Mare Island. A later despatch, dated March 26, adds that Rear-Admiral Selfridge, in obedience to a writ of habeas corpus, brought R. D. Bogart before Judges Sawyer and Hoffman this afternoon. United States Attorney Latimer made a return of Secretary Robeson's telegraphic order for Bogart's arrest. Messrs. Pixley and Harrison, counsel for the prisoner, contended that the authority for the arrest was insufficient. The case was partially

argued, when the Judges refused to place Bogart in custody. The Marshal then remanded him to Admiral Selfridge. On March 27, Judges Sawyer and Hoffman admitted R. D. Bogart to bail in \$10,000. The case was continued until the following Tuesday, on a motion by the District Attorney and the consent of the prisoner's counsel. Bogart offered bail to any amount that the Court might demand. The District Attorney demurred to the answer of prisoner's counsel. It will be recollected that Bogart in 1868 was tried by a naval court-martial, of which Admiral Pennock was president, and convicted of embezzlement while acting as pay clerk in the receiving ship *Vermont*. He was sentenced to three years imprisonment, forfeiting all pay and emoluments and to be dishonorably discharged. In General Order No. 143, dated October 28, 1869, Secretary Robeson disapproved and set aside the proceedings, findings, and sentence in the case, Mr. Bogart's resignation having been previously accepted, and the trial and sentence by the court not being in accordance with law. He was thereupon discharged, and afterwards re-arrested and discharged by the civil authorities upon the ground that having been once before tried and acquitted for the same offence, he was not liable to a second prosecution. At the time of his arrest, in San Francisco, he was engaged as the Modoc war correspondent of the *Chronicle* of that city. He is reported to have been the author of a number of articles on the Navy Department, which appeared in the *New York Sun*. During his imprisonment in Mare Island, he has been confined and strictly guarded on board the receiving ship *Independence*, and will probably be subjected to a new trial.

THE following is a list of the naval officers on the retired list, affected by the recent act of Congress, all of whom have been detached and placed on waiting orders, except those indicated by the asterisk, and who will be relieved as soon as practicable:

Rear-Admirals.—Charles Wilkes, special duty, Washington; T. O. Selfridge,\* commandant Navy-yard, Mare Island; T. Bailey, Light-House Board; M. Smith, governor Naval Asylum, Philadelphia; C. S. Boggs,\* secretary Light-House Board; J. F. Green, commanding North Atlantic Station; Henry Walke, Light-House Board; James Alden,\* commanding European Station. Lieutenant-Commanders.—Charles E. Hawley, League Island; F. H. Sheppard, Navy-yard, Pensacola.

Lieutenant.—H. C. Keen, Boston Yard. Masters.—William B. Arrants, *Puget*; E. E. Bradbury, receiving ship *Sabine*; A. Ross, Naval Observatory; C. V. Morris, Washington Yard; R. C. Jones, New Orleans; L. R. Christie, League Island.

Medical Directors.—William Johnson, Examining Board, Washington; L. B. Hunter, Asylum, Philadelphia; William M. Wood, inspector-general, etc.; J. M. Foltz, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia; C. D. Maxwell, special duty, Washington; George Maulsby, Examining Board, Washington.

Surgeon.—Ed. M. Stein, Navy-yard, Pensacola. Pay Directors.—Robert Pettit, Naval Asylum, Philadelphia; W. B. Boggs, special duty, Navy Department. Chaplains.—Mason Noble, Navy-yard, Washington; George W. Dorrance,\* U. S. S. *Brooklyn*, European Station.

Professor.—E. A. Roget,\* Naval Academy. Naval Constructors.—John Lenthall,\* special duty, Washington; B. F. Delano,\* Navy-yard, New York. First Assistant Engineer.—C. A. Uber, Examining Board, Washington.

Boatswains.—Thomas G. Bell, Navy-yard, New York; George Willmuth, Navy-yard, Washington; James Walker, Navy-yard, Boston; E. Cavendy, Navy-yard, Norfolk.

Carpenters.—John Southwick, Naval Academy; William M. Loughton, Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.; Jonas Dibble, Naval Asylum, Philadelphia; William D. Jenkins, receiving ship *Vermont*, New York; Charles Boardman, receiving ship *Ohio*, Boston; Nicholas Mager,\* U. S. S. *Omaha*.

Sailmaker.—Jacob Stephens, Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

### PAY OF RETIRED NAVAL OFFICERS.

THE following decision has been rendered by the Second Comptroller:

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
SECOND COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,  
March 28, 1873.

SIR: The act of Congress making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June 30, 1874, and for other purposes, approved March 3, 1873, makes a new provision of pay for officers on the retired list, "who have been or may be hereafter retired after forty years' service, or on attaining the age of sixty-two years, in conformity with section one, act of December, 1861 (12 Stat., 329), and its amendments dated June 25, 1864 (13 Stat., 183), or those who were or may be retired from incapacity resulting from long and faithful service, from wounds or injuries received in the line of duty, from sickness or exposure therein," giving them in lieu of the pay provided by the act of July 16, 1870, "seventy-five per centum of the present sea pay of the grade or rank which they held at the time of their retirement." After a careful consideration of the foregoing provisions, and consultation with the chairman of the Senate Naval Committee, I am of the opinion that the proper interpretation of the law will give to each officer to be benefited seventy-five per centum of the sea pay now authorized to the grade (if a staff officer), or to the rank (if a line officer) which he held at the time of retirement.

For example, a paymaster retired during his first five years of service as a paymaster would be entitled to seventy-five per centum of the sea pay of a paymaster on his first five years' service, and the same rule would, of course, apply to all officers whose pay is affected by length of service. In regard to the question referred to this office, whether or not a retired officer of the staff is

entitled to pay on the retired list according to his relative rank, it is my opinion that the rank, being only relative, does not carry the pay. The law providing pay for paymasters and surgeons on the active list gives them severally the pay as paymasters or surgeons simply, and not as captains or commanders, and the same principle should govern payments to these officers on the retired list. It is evident that the word "grade" or "rank" in the act of March 3, 1873, was intended to apply to officers who were paid according to grade as well as rank on the active list. As to the date from which the provisions of the act relating to the employment of retired officers on the active list and to the increased pay of a promoted officer are to be considered as in force, I have to say that in my opinion the date the act was approved (March 3, 1873), is the date on which these provisions take effect.

Any officer, however, on the retired list, who at the date of the act was on duty under orders from the Navy Department, will be entitled to his duty pay until relieved, up to any period previous to the first of July next, the prohibition in the proviso applying only to putting them on duty after the date of the act. I find upon a careful examination of the subject that the decisions and rulings have been uniform, that where provisions of a general nature have been included in appropriation acts they have been construed as binding from the date of the approval of the acts. The question has been presented whether the length of time an officer is borne on the retired list affects his pay. It does not. An increase depending on length of service inures only to officers on the active list. After retirement, an officer's pay is not modified by time or by his promotion in rank or grade. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. M. BROADHEAD, Comptroller.

Approved: GEO. M. ROBESON, Sec. of the Navy.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

MARCH 26.—Assistant Paymaster Frank H. Clark, to duty as assistant to Passed Assistant Paymaster F. C. Alley, at Key West, Fla.

Sailmaker John C. Herbert, to the receiving ship Potomac, at Philadelphia.

MARCH 28.—Commodore E. T. Nichols, as a member of the Retiring and Examining Boards at Washington, D. C., on the 24 April next.

Commander A. W. Weaver, to remain on duty at the Navy-yard, Washington City, until the 30th June next, when he is to regard himself as detached and waiting orders.

Commander W. W. Queen, to temporary duty at the Naval Observatory, Washington, instead of at the Navy-yard, Washington.

Lieutenant-Commander Silas Casey, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, on the 15th April next.

Professor B. F. Greene, to special duty in the Bureau of Navigation.

Medical Director Wm. Grier, and Medical Inspector John Y. Taylor, as members of the Retiring Board, and for duty in examining the physical condition of officers preliminary to promotion, at Washington, D. C., on the 24 April next, in addition to their present duties.

Surgeon Henry C. Nelson, for duty at the Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., on the 1st April, in addition to present duties.

Mate L. B. Gallagher, to the receiving ship Vermont.

MARCH 29.—Professor Edward S. Holden, to the Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C.

Carpenter John L. Davis, to the Naval Academy.

Carpenter James McDonnell, to the Onward, per steamer of 20th inst.

Acting Carpenter Philip S. Craig, to the Narragansett, per steamer of 10th April next.

APRIL 1.—Commander Stephen B. Luce, as a member of the Board of Examiners at Annapolis, Md., on the 7th inst.

Lieutenant John C. Rich, to the receiving ship Potomac, at Philadelphia.

Master Richard Wainwright, to the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Master N. J. K. Patch, to duty in the North Atlantic Station.

First Assistant Engineer David Jones, to duty in the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

Boatswain Robert Anderson, to duty in the equipment department, Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

#### DETACHED.

MARCH 26.—Lieutenant Thomas Perry, from the Shenandoah on the 15th April next, and granted six months' leave, with permission to remain in Europe during his leave.

Ensign Gilbert Morton, from the receiving ship New Hampshire, at Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the receiving ship Ohio, at Boston.

Carpenter Ebenezer Thompson, from the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and ordered to the Naval Asylum, Philadelphia, on the 1st April next.

Sailmaker Theodore C. Herbert, from the receiving ship Potomac, and ordered to the Constellation on the 1st April next.

MARCH 28.—Lieutenant-Commander John McFarland, from the receiving ship New Hampshire, and ordered as assistant to executive at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

Medical Director Chas. D. Maxwell, from special duty at Washington, D. C., on the 1st April, and placed on waiting orders.

Medical Inspector Thos. J. Turner, from the Marine Barracks, Washington, on the 1st April next, and ordered to special duty to attend officers at Washington, D. C.

Surgeon Edward M. Stein, from the Navy-yard, Pensacola, and placed on waiting orders.

MARCH 29.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward Hooker, from the Navy-yard, New York, April 15, and ordered to duty at Naval station, League Island, Penn.

Second Assistant Engineer J. H. Thomas, from the Naval Station League Island, Penn., and ordered as examining engineer of Board of Examiners, at Washington, April 2.

MARCH 31.—Lieutenant W. S. Cowles, from the Constellation, and placed on waiting orders.

APRIL 1.—Lieutenant-Commander G. C. Wiltsie, from the Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla., and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant R. M. Berry, from the Pensacola, and placed on waiting orders.

#### APPOINTED.

Benjamin F. Green, Wm. W. Hendrickson, and Edward S. Holden, professors of mathematics in the Navy, from the 21st March, 1873.

Franklin B. Stephenson, of Philadelphia, Pa., an assistant surgeon in the Navy, from the 14th March, 1873.

APRIL 1.—William W. Richardson, of New York, an acting carpenter in the Navy.

#### REVOKED.

APRIL 1.—The orders of Captain Wm. N. Jeffers, as a member of the Board of Examiners at Annapolis, Md.

#### ORDER MODIFIED.

The orders of Rear-Admiral G. H. Scott have been so far modified as to require him to be at Key West, Fla., by the 5th May next, to relieve Rear-Admiral Green in command of the North Atlantic Station.

#### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States which have been reported to the

Surgeon-General of the U. S. Navy and chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending March 29, 1873:  
Otto Merrem, landsman, March 15, Naval Hospital, Chelsea.

### CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

MARCH 22.—First Lieutenant Henry C. Cochran, detached from Marine Barracks, Philadelphia, Pa., and to report for duty at Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Second Lieutenant Edward McCauley—his resignation accepted, to take effect April 1st next.

MARCH 31.—Captain McLane Tilton, by direction of Navy Department, to command the marines stationed at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

Second Lieutenant Samuel H. Gibson, detached from Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., and ordered to the sloop Constellation, at Annapolis, Md.

### TORPEDOES IN NAVAL ACTIONS.

(From the London Engineer.)

It may be interesting briefly to glance through the torpedo question, as it affects offensive and naval warfare, and to show what, in our opinion, is its present position. Without entering into the details of the numberless projects invented of late, which would occupy far too much time, we will rapidly examine three principal systems of offensive torpedoes, or torpedo vessels. These are: First, torpedoes carried by vessels, specially constructed for this service, which are capable of being launched in a fixed direction, and of preserving it under water, thus striking an enemy at a certain distance. This is known as the Whitehead system. The torpedo vessel carries a horizontal tube, usually in the bow and in a line with the keel, at a depth of about eight feet below the surface. The torpedo is projected and worked by compressed air, and attains a speed of from six to seven knots, preserving a constant depth below the surface. As the apparatus proceeds its speed decreases, owing to a diminution in the expansive force of the compressed air; nevertheless, we may estimate its average speed at six knots. At the moment of launching it is necessary to reduce the speed of the torpedo vessel so that it shall be a knot or a knot and a half inferior to that of the torpedo. This precaution is essential to avoid accident. The necessary slackening of speed is one of the inconveniences inherent to the Whitehead system, and one which may bring about the most serious consequences to the attacking ship. It is easy to comprehend the danger of slackening speed just when within reach of an alarmed and ready adversary. On the other hand, as the torpedo has to be projected towards a moving object, it is not difficult to see that uncertainty of result increases rapidly with the distance of the vessel attacked. To achieve success the torpedo vessel must take into consideration the course of the vessel attacked, must accurately estimate her speed, and must then manoeuvre so as to place her bow at a projecting angle very difficult to determine with such problematical data. It is not necessary to dwell upon the details of the Whitehead torpedo; from the slight sketch we have given the extreme importance of skilful handling of the torpedo vessel will be appreciated. She should endeavor to approach as near as possible, and, taking into consideration the speed and course of the enemy, project the torpedo so as to strike her bilge, then make off as fast as possible and prepare a fresh attack. The tube or cannon which projects the torpedo being placed on a line with the keel, it follows that the captain must, by a suitable manoeuvre, place the bow of his vessel so that the direction of her keel passes a certain distance ahead of the enemy, in order that the torpedo, by its own velocity, may arrive at the point where the two courses meet at the same instant as the vessel attacked. Sailors know the difficulties attending the attempt to ram an adversary; they ought to be able to tell us whether any practical result can be arrived at in estimating by the eye alone the course, distance, and speed of a moving target. However seductive this system of torpedoes may appear in theory, we are forced to the conclusion that it in no way strengthens the attack in the open sea on an enemy who is master of his movements. Looking to the results of a long series of experiments by the Torpedo Committee, that at a distance of about 300 yards a torpedo projected from a vessel at rest against another vessel at rest in still water, or a moderate tide-way has a fair chance of striking her, we are confirmed in the opinion we have all along held, viz., that the Whitehead system is not applicable to naval actions on the high seas, however successfully it may be used for the defence of ports or the attack of ships which commit the grave imprudence of remaining at anchor on an enemy's coast.

The second system is that of carrying torpedoes fixed at the extremity of spars projecting from the bow of a ship, sometimes above and sometimes below the water (a system much used by the Americans during the war, and since then largely developed by them), depends, as a rule, for success on the power the attacking ship has of concealing her movements, whether by fog, darkness, or other causes, so as to take her adversary by surprise. For this purpose small vessels presenting but little surface above water, have generally been used; nor have the insuperable difficulties and dangers of submarine boats entirely prevented their application to this purpose by desperate and determined men; at the same time their employment has necessarily been limited to calm waters and the vicinity of a port. The impossibility, notwithstanding great efforts and many experiments, of employing so delicate an agent as electricity in the explosion of these torpedoes, and the extreme danger in the confusion of a sea-fight of using mechanical or self-acting exploders, have prevented the application of this system to large ships. Hence we may say that this system also is inapplicable to actions on the high seas.

The last system, of which Captain Harvey's torpedo may be considered a representative, is that of towing torpedoes. In this system two torpedoes are towed, one on each quarter, at a lateral distance of about fifty yards from the vessel's track. They remain at the surface until shortly before striking, when, by slackening the tow-

ing line, the torpedo is dropped under the enemy's bottom and explodes upon contact.

The advantage of this system over the others is that the torpedo can be towed for defensive purposes from almost any vessel, and that it then adds largely to security against being rammed. The attack can be delivered in several different ways: (1) Both ships holding the same course—this argues a great superiority in speed on the part of the torpedo vessel. (2) The ships steering directly opposite courses—this supposes the enemy to be surprised or incapable of defence. (3) Crossing either ahead or astern—a condition into which the two previous methods will most frequently resolve themselves. To cross an enemy's path and pass close ahead of him not only demands superiority of speed, but also there must be plenty of room for manoeuvring with safety, and for steering with the greatest precision in order to avoid being struck by the enemy's ram. We see that this is a very hazardous manoeuvre, and one which ought only to be resorted to under exceptionally favorable circumstances; but it is the only one which torpedo vessels of equal or inferior speed can attempt with a chance of success.

If, on the other hand, the torpedo vessel passes under the stern, she must immediately turn in the direction of the ship attacked, and, using the superiority of speed which is necessary for this manoeuvre, draw slowly along the broadside of the enemy in order to insure contact. It is needless to dwell upon the danger of being thus exposed, at a distance of fifty yards, to the whole weight of a heavy broadside fire in a small and lightly constructed ship. Success would be only too surely followed by the almost immediately sinking of the victor. The danger of carrying these destructive weapons exposed on a vessel's flank for a chance shot to explode, and the great care necessary in launching them, etc., have led to the proposal to explode them by electricity; but, as we before remarked, this agent is unsuited for naval purposes, and no success has attended the attempt. As a great superiority of speed is necessary for these torpedoes when used offensively, the construction of special ships has been deemed necessary. Looking at the difficulties which attend the employment of this system on a large scale, we may, without denying the success which has attended certain experiments with them, refuse to be led away by the illusions of inventors.

In conclusion, we may say that the introduction of these new weapons tends to neutralize the offensive power of each, and renders caution more necessary; the ram will demand it from the torpedo, and vice versa. Perhaps the tendency of all will be to replace guns and gunnery in their old position, and to restore the pre-eminence of pluck and endurance. Though we hesitate to accept any of these systems as satisfactory for offensive purposes, we fully recognize the important part which torpedoes may play in coast defence. The large sums spent, and the many experiments made both at home and abroad, bear witness to the importance of the question. Complaint has been made that our naval establishment compares badly in this respect with those of foreign governments; but it should not be forgotten that in America, France, and Germany the naval budget bears the expense of this department, the large sum allotted this year in Germany being required for the maintenance of the whole Torpedo Department. With us this service is kept in the hands of the Royal Engineers, and looking to the conclusions we have arrived at, when considering the offensive or naval side of the question, we think the arrangement a wise one.

In the Washington District Court, on March 28, before Judge Humphreys, the case of the Farragut claims for prize money for the destruction of rebel vessels in forcing the passage to New Orleans, of which the arbitrators a day or two ago filed their report awarding \$268,000, was up, and Mr. Corwine, for the Navy Department, moved that the arbitrators file the evidence taken. Judge Humphreys overruled the motion, and General Butler, for the claimants, moved a decree on the award. On March 29 the hearing was resumed. Mr. Cornell filed exceptions to the arbitrators' report. These exceptions were not argued, but were overruled by Judge Humphreys. Mr. Corwine then renewed the motion to direct the arbitrators to send up the evidence on which their award was based. This motion was overruled by the Judge, and thereupon the counsel for the captors, etc., moved that the court enter a decree confirming the award of the arbitrators and ordering the payment of the money, which was done.

A CIRCULAR, issued by Secretary Geo. S. Boutwell, dated March 12, 1873, announces that hereafter all officers of the Revenue Marine Service ordered by the Department to appear before an Examining Board, for examination with a view to promotion, will be expected to promptly present themselves and undergo the examination according to orders, and will not be permitted to waive or decline examination.

An officer failing to pass the minimum standard, fixed by the Examining Board, will be dropped from the rolls or allowed a second examination, at a subsequent period within one year, in the discretion of the Department; but should he fail a second time, he will be peremptorily dropped.

### LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the date given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

MARCH 28.  
Lincoln, H., Captain. Preston, J. S., General—2.  
Reever, H., Captain.  
APRIL 1.  
Brown, T. Allistor, Colonel. Dickinson, J. R., Captain.  
Crosby, J., Captain. Fish, R., Captain.  
Devereux, A. F., General. Hall, C. F., Captain.  
Wingate, Captain.

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VINCENT B. KING, HENRY W. MILLER,  
Member of N. Y. Stock Exch'ge. Late Lt.-Commander U. S. Navy.

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**L. NARBUTT.—Imported Havana and Domestic**  
Cigars, Cigarettes, Smoking and Chewing Tobacco. Wholesale and retail. 85 BLEEKER ST., near Broadway.

CAPTAIN WM. N. JEFFERS is to succeed Rear-Admiral CASE as Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance. Captain JEFFERS has devoted the greater part of his life to ordnance, and he is the author of some interesting works on the subject. He is at present in command of the gunnery ship *Constellation*. The selection is a good one.

PROFESSOR JOS. E. NOURSE, of the U. S. Navy, has in accordance with instructions from Rear-Admiral B. F. Sands, prepared an interesting and useful memoir of the Naval Observatory from its earliest organization to the present time. His information has been derived from official records and from inquiry of those who were familiar with the history of the institution. The memoir is published in large quarto form of fifty pages, handsomely printed, and its title is "Memoir of the Founding and Progress of the United States Naval Observatory, Founded A. D. 1842. John Tyler, President United States; A. P. Upshur, Secretary of the Navy."

The memoir does not commence with 1842, the date above given as the founding of the Institution, but as early as 1810, when the subject of establishing a National Observatory really originated; that is, with the first movement for establishing a first meridian in the United States. The progress of the institution is traced from year to year, and its more important works referred to by extracts from public reports and original matter. Altogether the memoir is highly creditable to its author. The names of the Superintendents are given as follows: Commander M. F. Maury, from October 1, 1844, to April 20, 1861; Captain J. M. Gilliss, from April 22, 1861, to February 9, 1865; Rear-Admiral C. H. Davis, from April 29, 1865, to May 8, 1867; Rear-Admiral B. F. Sands, from May 8, 1867, to —.

THE following correspondence has been made public:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, March 24, 1873.

To the Honorable the Attorney-General.

SIR: Honorable W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, expecting to be absent a few weeks, has requested me to authorize and direct William T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States, to perform the duties of Secretary of War during such absence. Please advise me whether such an appointment will be legal. Your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
WASHINGTON, March 24, 1873.

To the President.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to-day, in which you submit for my official opinion the question as to whether or not William T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States, can be authorized to perform the duties of Secretary of War during the temporary absence of that officer. Section 18 of the act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 13, 1871, and for other purposes, approved July 15, 1870, 16th United States Statutes, page 319, is as follows:

"That it shall not be lawful for any officer of the Army of the United States on the active list to hold any civil office, whether by election or appointment; and any such officer accepting or exercising the functions of a civil office shall at once cease to be an officer of the Army, and his commission shall be vacated thereby."

General Sherman is on the active list of the Army, and the office of Secretary of War is a civil office. He cannot, therefore, be appointed to discharge the duties of that office, nor can he exercise its functions without ceasing to be an officer of the Army of the United States. I am, therefore, of the opinion that General Sherman cannot act as Secretary of War without vacating his commission as General of the Army. Very respectfully, GEO. H. WILLIAMS, Attorney-General.

THE President has accepted the resignation of Second Lieutenant Edward S. Holden, of the Engineer Corps, to take effect March 7.

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1873.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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SOME impatience is beginning to show itself in consequence of the delay which may occur in carrying into effect that clause of the recent Naval Appropriation Act, giving seventy-five per centum of the sea pay of their grade to certain classes of retired officers of the Navy. A month has passed, another pay-day is at hand, and none of the retired will be able to pocket the increase which has been anxiously expected and would, with few exceptions, be gratefully received. The cause of the delay is said to be the difficulty of determining the status of many of the officers on the retired list, under the act. Although the act would seem to point out very clearly who shall receive the increased pay, yet some are claiming its benefits who must be denied them under the most liberal construction. The printed Navy Register is not a satisfactory guide for the pay officers in all cases. They must therefore await the instructions of the accounting officers who require the necessary data in each case—the grounds of retirement, from the manuscript records of the Navy Department, before issuing such instructions. Hence the delay, which, however, is of no great consequence, as the increased pay will simply accumulate under it.

What action the accounting officers would take, in the matter of the pay of the retired officers who should for any length of time, subsequent to the approval of the act, be kept on duty, was a matter of interest and importance to those at least who were in that position. The employment of retired officers is forbidden hereafter, but a strict construction of the act was waived, and it was decided to allow a reasonable time after its passage for the detachment of such officers and the receipt by them of their orders, during which they would be allowed duty pay. A report gained extensive circulation that the increased pay of the retired officers would not commence until the appropriations for the next fiscal year should be available, that is after the 1st of July. Although the propriety of such construction may have at one time been entertained or discussed, it was soon decided that the increase was of date of the passage of the act.

THE steamship *Atlantic*, of the well-known "White Star" line of passenger steamers plying between New York and Liverpool, on the 1st inst. ran ashore on the coast of Nova Scotia in the early morning, and in a fierce gale of wind and rain. She soon sank, carrying down with her over 500 men, women, and children, making this one of the most appalling of marine disasters. It seems that the *Atlantic*, which had been eleven days at sea and had experienced heavy weather, ran out of coal and was putting into Halifax for a supply when she struck on Meagher's Island. The difficulties and dangers of this coast are familiar to mariners; but we must refrain from criticising the seamanship of the captain of the *Atlantic* until we have fuller and more authentic data than those furnished us by hasty newspaper telegraphic reports. We do not, however, see how the agents of the line can escape deserved censure for sending a steamer carrying a thousand souls to sea, in a month in which heavy weather might be safely predicted, with an insufficient supply of coal.

We are more inclined to impute blame to the

directors of the line from the fact that their steamers are notoriously built for speed at the sacrifice of safety. Far too long for their breadth, every nautical man can see that they must be unwieldy and dangerous in a heavy sea, and liable to break up on grounding with fatal rapidity. The criticisms to which this line has been subjected by experts has left the company without the excuse of ignorance as to the faulty construction of their ships. If there is any line of ocean steamers which needed to practice an excess of precaution, it was this one, which has been of all the most careless in sacrificing every consideration to that of temporary popularity.

A correspondent of the *Herald*, arguing against the building of iron vessels for the Navy, has some criticisms on these vessels which gain new force from this disaster to the *Atlantic*, which followed immediately after. He says:

England, France, and Russia, and may be other European Powers, have small despatch boats and troop ships built of iron, but we have yet to see a war ship of half-inch iron. This class of iron vessels does not require the repairs that wooden ships would, and the reason is obvious—when they come in contact with any unyielding substance they go down. They disappear beyond the possible reach of repairs. Upwards of sixty have already demonstrated that fact this year. No wonder that shipbuilding is lively on the Clyde; for something must be constructed at once to make up this loss to the carrying trade. The *Vandalia*, lately broken up—a live oak ship—was as sound as when built, and requiring as many tools to break her up as it did to build her, although her keel was laid thirty-three years ago. It has on former occasions been shown that the *Hatteras* and other iron vessels that were purchased during the war were either sunk or badly damaged by shot, and it stands recorded that an armored vessel, built for the Italian government in this country, now remains, beyond repairs, sunk by an old-fashioned teak-built frigate turned into a steamer. The wooden vessel bore down upon her iron antagonist, striking her amidships, and in a few minutes the costly fabric went to her last resting place, and the old frigate went back to port not very seriously damaged.

THE four new professors of mathematics at the Naval Academy have been commissioned and have received their parchments. Professor B. F. GREENE is a gentleman of considerable classical and scientific attainments, and has at different times filled professorships in some of our northern or eastern colleges. For a number of years past he has occupied the position of chief clerk of the Bureau of Navigation—one of much responsibility, as the chief of that Bureau is necessarily engaged a great deal in the duties of the detailing office, of which he is the head. Professor HOLDEN was a lieutenant in the Fourth Artillery, which he abandoned for the Navy. Professor HENDRICKSON was a lieutenant-commander in the Navy, but being of a scientific turn he preferred a position where his tastes could be cultivated and perfected. He was recently an assistant and instructor of mathematics at the Naval Academy. Professor JOHN M. RICE is an attaché of the Naval Academy, as an assistant instructor of physics and chemistry. His appointment, at this time, he owes to the failure of the Senate to confirm the nomination of Captain NICODEMUS. The latter can, it is said, lay his misfortune to the Army, or rather the Signal Corps, with which he was once connected, and from which he was dropped. At the time of this separation, he wrote and probably published some caustic articles against some of the higher officials, and therefore his nomination for a professorship in the Navy was a signal for opposition from this quarter.

ONE of the infelicities of the public service nowadays is the fact that, while straining every nerve "to make both ends meet," an officer may be suddenly notified by the accounting officers that two dollars and fifty cents, or two thousand dollars perhaps, must be checked against him on account of some real or supposed overpayment to him five, ten, or twenty-five years ago. It may be that his tax income or special was not deducted, or that, in the case of a naval officer, when holding, under doubtful authority, an acting appointment in WILKE's, or some other early expedition, he received the increased pay of the higher grade. A most clever and estimable officer of high rank spent sleepless nights,

and was haunted with visions of poverty and a year of checked pay, until he furnished from the records, officially attested, evidence of having twenty years ago been assigned by competent authority to the temporary command of a sloop of war, during which he received the pay of a higher grade. On the other hand, it is a happy reflection for naval officers that at no very distant day, the practice of allowing only closely calculated actual expenses when travelling under orders over or beyond the sea will be one of the inconsistencies "that were," and mileage will be allowed for the most direct routes the same as when travelling under orders in the United States. Is it not as expensive, in proportion, travelling 3,000 miles as 300, particularly abroad? Why, then, make the distinction?

Scarcely less inconsistent is the recent regulation, that officers "on duty, ordered as members of courts, boards, etc.," may receive travelling expenses back to their stations; while officers "not on duty," but similarly ordered, cannot receive such an allowance, and must get back to their domiciles at their own expense. Which can better afford to travel, the officer on duty, and on full pay, or the officer "not on duty," and on leave pay?

No plainer case of the mischief arising from personal legislation in the form of general laws could be found than in the clause of the late act which passed the Senate, and came near passing the House, "to retire officers of the Army upon the rank actually held by them when receiving the wounds on which they are retired."

Without intending to harm any one, this shows unpardonable carelessness of the person drawing up the clause, who was evidently controlled by the interests of an individual case. This clause would retire at least one colonel suffering from an old wound upon the rank of second lieutenant, and would work injustice upon other officers of the Army, requiring future legislation to correct.

A CORRESPONDENT, who has been at the pains to go through the Army Register in detail, sends us a statement of the number of officers now in the service who were appointed from the Military Academy, from civil life, and from the ranks. This, it will be seen, fully bears out our recent statement that not one-third of our Army officers are graduates of the Military Academy. In the general staff and staff corps, the percentage of graduates is .42; in the cavalry .35; in the artillery .54, and in the infantry but .17, or about one in six. In the infantry nearly as many officers have graduated from the ranks as from the Military Academy.

If the torpedo systems mentioned in the article from the London Engineer which we copy this week were the only ones in existence, then indeed would its conclusion be true that this mode of naval defence is of but little value. But no one understands better than the Engineer that it is has given its readers a very unfair statement respecting the various systems, and has in consequence given this very important subject a false coloring.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York Tribune writes on the subject of our court-martial system as follows:

SIR: The views of your Washington correspondent upon Courts-martial I in the main agree with, but I cannot otherwise than dissent from some few positions. I cannot see that it is more unfair to confine a soldier when charges are preferred than it is to confine a citizen when a warrant is sworn out against him; and as to the protracted confinement, it is now a rarity, indeed not nearly as common as the shameful detention of civil prisoners so frequently reprobated in your columns. No soldier can be confined longer than twenty-four hours without formal charges, and this practice is analogous to the confinement of citizens summarily arrested by your police. I admit and claim that there should be some better method of redeeming wrongs suffered in the shape of confinement for trivial offences than is offered in the Court-martial, which, as now managed, denies in reality any reparation.

The denying the prisoners real counsel is a wrong calling loudly for reform, falling as it does in the main on those least calculated to bear it—the private soldiers of the Army. Your correspondent's view of the court's action in secret debate may be just, censuring the secrecy, but is not as regards the action of the judge-advocate, whom the court uses at such times only as a re-

order. He can claim no right to be then heard in legal argument. The judge-advocate's power to challenge has been wonderfully magnified. He cannot challenge the whole array, but only individuals, and on exactly the same grounds as the prisoner does, viz., personal bias or predetermined opinion. A judge-advocate would be laughed at who would presume to challenge a member because he had voted yea or nay in a similar preceding case. Each case stands by itself, and the judge-advocate's neglect or refusal to prosecute charges sent to him for trial has the same effect as the entering of a *nolle proes*, in a civil court. The prisoner should at once know his fate, whether innocent or guilty; if innocent, that he may be at once released, and, if guilty, that his sentence, if possible, may at once commence. Now it commences at the earliest only on formal approval by the authority convening the court. The secret vote and discussions should be maintained, being absolutely necessary for the welfare and morale of the service, as frequently an officer is thrown at once into intimate relations with the prisoner after the trial, and not separated to meet again only by chance, as do the jury and prisoners in a civil case. I have had a very considerable experience in Courts-martial during the past ten years, and can say that I have never seen a vote cast which I could judge influenced or dictated by personal feeling. I have heard of such, but only heard of them. On the other hand, I have voted, and known others to vote, contrary to feelings both of partiality and prejudice, because the evidence demanded it.

I should not venture to intrude on your time and space but for my feeling with you that it is a matter affecting American citizens more nearly and vitally than they think, and that it should be impartially and thoroughly discussed. The point against the recent legislation as regards the Academy at West Point is so well taken and ably stated that it must carry convictions to every reader. The utter lack of any necessity for it is shown by the fact that an order can always be issued for such a court as readily from the War Department as from West Point.

CLEVELAND, O., March 17, 1873.

The following is the letter referred to by this correspondent. It was sent to the Tribune, as its date will show, some weeks since, by an "occasional correspondent," doubtless an officer of the Army:

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The recent passage by Congress of a bill conferring upon the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West Point, authority to convene general courts-martial from the Army officers on duty at the station seems to call for a few words concerning such tribunals. Upon these, in time of peace, depend the good name, the rights, and the liberties of 32,000 soldiers, officers and privates. In time of war, as we have had unpleasant occasion to know, their jurisdiction may reach a million citizens. It is therefore apparent that this is a subject of vital interest, not only to the Regular Army, but to every loyal family in the land. For at any moment some male member of it may be brought before the bar of these military courts, either as a militiaman ordered for duty or as a volunteer mustered into service.

Congress, under its constitutional power "to make rules for the Government and regulation of the land and naval forces," in 1806, established the "Articles of War," adopted, in fact, already by the resolution of September 20, 1776. These articles, based almost entirely upon the English Mutiny act, are, with slight exceptions, still in force as the fundamental law of the Army, and include the organic statute under which courts-martial act. Without material amendment for nearly a century, and based upon almost feudal precedents, these articles provide a tribunal inconsonant with the spirit of our institutions, and unsuitable to our soldiers, who never cease to be citizens. The broad principle of the common law—that the accused shall have at least equal rights and privileges with the accuser—is ignored practically by the courts-martial of free America. Whatever be the character of the charge, grave or frivolous, whether the commanding officer prefer it to enforce discipline or to gratify malice, from the moment it is advanced the accused is placed in duress. Startling as it may seem, this power of imprisonment is unlimited as to time, except that the act of July 17, 1862, provides that an officer shall be brought to trial within forty days after confinement, or the arrest shall cease. Even under these circumstances he may be tried within a twelve-month. Of course the commanding officer is responsible for his conduct to his military superiors, but our ground is, and we believe the Constitution sustains us, that the rights and liberties of no citizen should ever be infringed or abridged by individual action, except in strict accordance with positive legal enactment.

Having pointed out the preliminary injustice done the accused or prisoner, we will now assume that a court of impartial officers has been assembled, and is ready for trial. The Government, in all cases the prosecutor, is represented by a judge-advocate, who is at the same time the recorder and legal adviser of the court; the prisoner may have the assistance of counsel, the Constitution guaranteeing that right; but such counsel have no standing in court—whatever they do must be done through the prisoner. Colonel Benet, the latest American authority on "Military Law and Courts-martial," says on this subject:

"The assistance is strictly restricted to giving advice, framing questions which are handed by the accused to the judge-advocate on separate slips of paper, or offer-

ing, in writing, through the same channel, any legal objections that may be rendered necessary by the course of the proceedings. It is an admitted maxim on all courts-martial, that the counsel is not to address the court, or interfere in any manner in the proceedings; his presence is only tolerated as a friend of the prisoner;" and yet a military trial is open to the public! When any question demands decision the court is cleared, i. e., the accused, his counsel, witnesses, and spectators are excluded from the session, but the prosecuting officer remains with the court in secret conclave. The court, as a rule, simply announces its decision through the judge-advocate without assigning reasons for its conclusions. If disposed to be severe it might be shown that all this varies very little from the famous Star Chamber procedure. The finding is rendered and the sentence imposed in closed session, but still in presence of the judge-advocate. One very tangible injustice that may result from this is the infringement of a prisoner's rights of challenge. Very frequently similar charges against different individuals are tried by the same court; the second defendant of course has no knowledge of the verdict already reached, and may therefore be compelled to trust his case to a jury and judges who have already decided upon his offence. The judge-advocate, however, should the first finding have gone against him, need not submit the second charge to the same court, but might perhaps challenge the whole array."

"A speedy and public trial," and by this is meant a trial brought to a conclusion, including verdict and sentence, is the undeniable right of every citizen. Yet it is not granted to the military prisoner; for the proceedings of courts-martial must be confirmed or otherwise acted upon by higher authority before their judgment is divulged. No good reason can be advanced why the prisoner should not at once know his fate—so far as the court has power to determine it. No rights would be jeopardized, no principles endangered, were this done; the proceedings might still require the action of a superior to make them effective or nugatory, while the accused might thus be spared weeks of uncertainty and suffering. Judicial proceedings should most assuredly be humane; to allow accused persons to linger in doubt and anxiety after trial reminds one of the practices of the inquisition; it is certainly not in place in any code, civil or military, of the nineteenth century. Very often, too, although we have a corps of judge-advocates, "learned in the law," these functionaries are young officers detailed to assist a court, every one of whose members may have more experience and knowledge of military jurisprudence than the representative of Government; then may occur the strange spectacle of jury and judges questioning witnesses in the interests of the prosecution, and the accused cannot interfere, for "the questions have been prejudged by the members propounding them." (Greenleaf.)

Although the members of a court are sworn to decide according to the evidence adduced, who, in the absence of any code or authoritative rules, shall determine what constitutes evidence? Clearly the members themselves; but the human mind, for want of a fixed standard of interpretation to which it must submit, may consider proof to be "strong as Holy Writ" when its sympathies are enlisted, or when its prejudices are aroused may deem "trifles light as air" most convincing testimony. It is not meant to impugn the good faith of our officers, but simply to say that without a predetermined rule of action the human understanding is prone to be biased by feeling. Hence it follows that while a court-martial is the very tribunal that would be sought by a favorite soldier, it may be likened to a prejudiced jury and a one-sided judge when an unpopular individual is brought to trial. In neither case do the scales of justice weigh fairly.

A great step in advance was taken when the Judge-Advocate-General of the Army was created by the act of July 17, 1862, and Judge Holt appointed to the position. But under the law this officer can revise proceedings only after they have become *faits accomplis*; his recommendations may or may not be adopted by the courts. There are cases on record where the Judge-Advocate-General has shown conclusively that the judgment of the court was wrong; yet the court adhered to its finding, and its sentence was carried into effect. The present Secretary of War must understand the vagueness and insufficiency of some of the Articles of War, for in his recent report he recommends that Congress make such enactments as will insure an equalization of punishments throughout the Army. As a rule the articles merely provide "such punishment as a court-martial may inflict" for offences. Naturally, in the absence of a standard authority, some court may regard any given violation of law or discipline as heinous which another would consider without gravamen; and the sentences would vary accordingly.

One other objection to the present laws must be referred to, which brings us to the West Point bill again. No immediate commanding officer should have the right, in time of peace, to convene courts-martial, or to act upon their proceedings. The power is too great, the temptation too strong. The offence is committed under his eye, perhaps against his own local regulations, and he must have opinions concerning its merits which may influence him in the selection of officers to constitute the court. Then again, should the court not find or sentence in accordance with his ideas of justice, the convening officer, human after all, might not be able as commanding officer to conceal his disappointment or disapprobation. Officers might then, to avoid unpleasant relations with their commander, quite undesignedly be more willing to please him than to mete out his strict due to the prisoner. Is it not evident that the convening and reviewing officer should be one far removed from the influences of the *locus criminis*? These points involve questions of the greatest importance to the State, and it is fortunate that we have at the head of the Military Committee of the next Congress two gentlemen who, both by their experience as soldiers and their profession as lawyers, are especially well qualified to revise our whole system of courts-martial.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## A JUST COMPLAINT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The late session of Congress passed some acts relating to the Army (at any rate the annual appropriation bill), and there is a natural desire on the part of officers and men to know what such legislation did, or did not do. The journals generally have not published a full tabular statement of "acts passed." Naturally we look to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for information on this topic; but alas! the paper published and mailed in New York on Friday evening has not yet been received here, this Monday morning following, and the same is true of nearly every issue. Now, have we mails, or have we not? It is utterly beyond finite view to establish the cause of delay. When postage is prepaid the natural conclusion is that the Government is the contractor for delivery; if not, there is false pretence somewhere. However, as we are firm in the faith that "our country right or wrong" is a soldier's true motto, we do not complain, but with due respect for our venerated Uncle make the following suggestion, of course having only a local application. The idea of March having passed, and there being reasonable prospect of "resumption of navigation" (as the prospectors in the grain trade inform us) at no very distant date, I propose you refrain from forwarding us another JOURNAL until the Erie canal is open, and then by that channel supply us with our literary rations for the future. A bill in equity, or chancery—which is it?—might bring about the restoration of the advance postage. Failing in this, the Court of Claims may be open to conviction. In case of an adverse decision here, an appeal might rest with the Second Comptroller of the Treasury, whose decision, viewed in the "light of other days," would certainly be in our favor.

However, I am not wedded to this line of action, and beg that, in event you do not agree with me, you would suggest some remedy for the ills under which we groan; still, I do not wish to fly "to others which we know not of."

FORT ONTARIO, N. Y., March 25, 1873.

## THE CHILLINGWORTH-RICE BAYONET.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: An article in your issue of the 15th instant, quoted from the Springfield Republican, concerning the trowel bayonet, may cause misapprehension among officers of the Army not fully acquainted with the subject, and I therefore beg leave to state the facts succinctly in the matter.

The bayonet, which in that article is called "Chillingworth's," is the same which is extensively known in the service as "Rice's" trowel bayonet, which first successfully embodied the conception of a combined weapon and tool of this sort.

Chillingworth, an ingenious mechanic at the armory at the time, devised an improvement in the present bayonet shank, making it more convenient for use in digging; and this was employed in the experiments at Springfield, referred to in the article, which are correctly described, and which were conducted under the direction of Colonel Rice.

The common bayonet shank obviously is not well adapted to use as a handle in digging, not being designed for that purpose, and various handles have been produced by different persons better suited to such use.

Of those having a socket for fixing the weapon on the barrel in the present manner, and at the same time contrived to give a good hold for the hand, Chillingworth's and Merrill's shanks (both good) are the best, and as such the first was used in the above trial.

The writer, however, who has seen several of the improved handles, thinks that one similar to that of the sabre bayonet is best suited to the double purpose in view, for fixing which the new rifle can readily be adapted.

The chief merit of the invention, however, consists in the novel idea which makes the weapon applicable to use for entrenching as well as a bayonet, and, though the various devices in handles show much ingenuity, the substantial value of the whole thing lies in the conception made a practical reality by Colonel Rice.

X. Y. Z.

## HONESTY AND ABILITY IN THE LINE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Attention is respectfully invited to the following quotation that may be found in H. R., page 166, Doc. 74, 3d session 42d Congress:

Q: "What would be the effect of adopting a system whereby company and detachment commanders should pay their commands?"

A: "I should not expect such an arrangement to produce satisfactory results. Most of the officers to be found in command of companies and detachments throughout the country possess no experience in, or aptness for disbursing money, have no desire to learn, and are not such men as should, on account of any special fitness which they possess, be selected for disbursing agents."

The officer who rendered the above answer to the question submitted him by the House Military Committee stated, in his reply to another question: "My knowledge of the practical operations and routine duties of other corps than my own has been derived principally from my experience as a commander in time of war."

There are about 1,500 captains and lieutenants in the line of the Army included in the above-quoted depreciatory criticism. As the number of companies and detachments of the Regular Army that were under the

command of this officer in time of war could most probably be counted upon the fingers with which he wrote the paragraph, the most plausible excuse that the broadest charity can offer for such a reflection upon his brother officers is that he did not know enough of the facts of the case to found, let alone express an opinion upon it. It may be, however, his own phrase, "have no desire to learn," accounts for his having expressed it.

It is a notorious fact that few, if any, line officers arrive at the rank of captain without having been disbursing officers in one, and most generally two capacities. There are, on an average, about two hundred garrisoned posts in the country, and at almost every one of them there is an acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence. These positions are almost invariably filled by young lieutenants of the line, and the records of the War Department, as well as the Treasury, will bear witness to the accuracy and fidelity they display in the discharge of these responsible duties. These officers are under no bonds for the faithful performance of their duty; and yet the amount of actual loss suffered by the Government through a lack of either honesty or capacity is so small as practically to amount to nothing. The line has for a long time been aware that certain close corporations in the Army assume to themselves an "aristocracy of intellect;" but it has never before supposed that the most self-sufficient sapient did not accord to it average ability and common honesty.

## COLONEL ABRAHAM VAN BUREN.

COLONEL ABRAHAM VAN BUREN, the eldest son of Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States, died March 15, 1873, at his residence in New York city. He was born November 27, 1807, at Kinderhook, Columbia County, New York, and received his preliminary education at Greenville Academy, Greene County, N. Y.

Before he was sixteen years old he entered the U. S. Military Academy from which he was graduated July 1, 1827, and promoted in the Army to be brevet second lieutenant of infantry. Attached to the Second regiment, in which he was commissioned a full second lieutenant ranking from July 1, 1827, he served two years in garrison at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and Fort Dearborn, Ill. So wonderful are our changes of less than half a century that the former, then a large frontier post, is now a suburb of the great city of St. Louis; and the latter, then in a vast wilderness from which an Indian courier was sent once a week some two hundred miles for letters at the nearest post-office, is the present site of Chicago, where a dozen concentrating railroads team with almost hourly mails to the 300,000 inhabitants.

Van Buren, from May 4, 1829, to July 4, 1836, was an aide-de-camp to Major-General McComb at the headquarters of the General-in-Chief in Washington city, except for a few months in 1836, when he left the gay circles of the capital to serve as a volunteer on the staff of General Scott in the pestilential swamps of Florida against the Seminole Indians. In the meanwhile, March 4, 1833, when the First Dragoons were substituted for the Mounted Rangers, he was appointed a first lieutenant in this regiment, and July 4, 1836, promoted to be captain.

Upon his father's elevation to the Presidency of the United States he resigned his commission, March 3, 1837, to become his private secretary. At this time his father was a widower and he a bachelor; but in November of the year following, Major Van Buren married Miss Angelica Singleton of Sumter District, South Carolina, at her parents' residence, and soon after removed to the Executive Mansion where she had been first presented under the auspices of her celebrated cousin, Mrs. Madison, and Senator William C. Preston, whose family she was then visiting. From this time till the end of President Van Buren's administration his courteous and polished son and his affable and accomplished daughter-in-law gracefully did the social honors of the White House and materially aided the Chief Magistrate in dispensing his generous and elegant hospitality. Besides these society duties, while holding his place of secretary, the Major inspired his father with the greatest confidence in his good sense, discretion, and perfect temper. On him the President mainly relied to bring him daily reports of the proceedings in Congress and was often more influenced by his son's opinions than by those of older politicians and more distinguished men.

Major and Mrs. Van Buren, after March 4, 1841, lived with his father at Lindenwald through several years of his retirement, passing much of the winter months with the Singletons in South Carolina.

On the breaking out of the war with Mexico, though Major Van Buren was living in ease and affluence, like most graduates of the Military Academy he felt it his duty to tender his sword in the service of his country, consequently he re-entered the Army June 22, 1846, receiving the commission of major in the Pay Department. He at once joined General Taylor's Army in Mexico, but the duties of his position did not satisfy his military cravings, hence we see him actively engaged in the battle of Monterey where, says his commander, he "served near my person and was ever prompt in all situations in the communication of my orders and instructions." Subsequently, as a volunteer on the staff of General Scott, he participated in every contest on the triumphal march from Vera Cruz to the capital of the Montezumas. Of him, says his distinguished chief, "Major Van Buren, as paymaster, made the campaign of Mexico with me, and although encumbered with a military chest containing money and vouchers amounting to millions, he never failed at the first gun to hasten, mounted, to me as a volunteer aid, and gallantly rode through every battle, a bearer of orders, with his accustomed quiet smile and amiability. The lieutenant-colonelcy given him at the end of the war was the adequate reward of such heroism." After the war till June 1, 1854, when he again resigned from the Army, he continued on paymaster's duty in the city of New York.

Upon leaving the military service he continued to reside in New York, except while attending, till 1859, to his planting interests near Columbia, S. C., and his three years' absence in Europe superintending the education of his sons.

His campaigning in Mexico had so shattered his health that a few days after his return, while riding on the Bloomingdale road in New York, he fell from his horse during a sudden attack of paralysis, from which he partially recovered when a year after he had a second. Though much improved in health by his journey abroad and horseback exercise, of which he was very fond, in the supervision of his South Carolina plantation, he never fully recovered the complete control of his locomotion and organs of speech. The afternoon before his death he drove out to Central Park and spent the evening at the Union Club, of which he was a much esteemed member. On returning home, about ten o'clock, he complained of a headache and pains in his arm and side, but these passed away, and a few moments before he breathed his last, he had the prospect of a comfortable night. At two in the morning his wife was suddenly aroused by his cry to her, but before she could reach his bedside he died of apoplexy and his gentle spirit had gone to its final rest.

Colonel Van Buren was a brave soldier, tried on many battle fields; a worthy citizen, true in all the relations of life; and an upright Christian with "a tear for pity and a hand open as day for melting charity." He was modest and unassuming, possessing winning simplicity of manner, and was ever the courteous, genial gentleman. His temper was pre-eminently mild and sweet, never ruffled by enmity nor disturbed by irascible emotion. His intercourse was cordial, cheerful, and sincere, but always dignified and respectful. Though decided in his convictions, he was reserved in his utterances, rarely expressing an adverse opinion. His judgment was excellent and his prescience of political tendencies most remarkable. His heart was the residence of warm affection and glowed with sympathy for the wants and sufferings of others. His loyalty to his friends was proverbial, and he never spoke of his superiors with whom he had served except in terms of the highest appreciation. A marked illustration of his fidelity was his abandonment of a tour to Europe to give testimony in favor of General Scott when before a Court of Inquiry at Frederick, Md., and volunteering as a secretary to aid in preparing his old commander's defence. With so many virtuous qualities it is not surprising that he was a great favorite with intimates who appreciated the kindness and urbanity of his manners, the sincerity, generosity and benevolence of his heart; and that he should be lovingly valued in his home where he was the most dutiful of sons, the tenderest of husbands, and the most affectionate of parents.

"Born to no pride, inheriting no strife,  
Nor marrying discord in a noble wife,  
Stranger to civil and religious rage  
The good man walk'd innoxious through his age;  
He knew no schoolman's subtle art,  
No language but the language of the heart.  
By nature honest, by experience wise,  
Healthy by temperance and by exercise;  
His life, though long, to [sadness] pass'd unknown,  
His death was instant, and without a groan."

G. W. C.

(From the London Iron, March 1.)

## HEAVY ORDNANCE.

THE Naval Administration has had under serious consideration the ordnance mishaps of the past year. Three systems for rifling ordnance have been successively adopted in Her Majesty's service within fifteen years; and the present French plan of rifling has been in use eight years. Though no heavy gun rifled on the French, or as it has been renamed, the "Woolwich" system, has ever been in action, yet a great deal of experience has been gained as to its destructive effect, both upon the gun and upon the projectile. This experience has led to so many modifications that no two natures of guns in Her Majesty's service have the same pitch of rifling, while the destruction of projectiles has been quite wholesale. These modifications in the system may be supposed to have eliminated all destructive conditions, other than those essentially incidental to false mechanical principles. The attention of the Board of Admiralty has been directed to the results achieved by the latest developments of the system, on which all the talent of Woolwich Arsenal has been vainly concentrated for eight years.

The kind of results which have disturbed all intelligent minds in the navy, may be understood by a survey of the mishaps of the past year. 1872 was a year of profound peace. Heavy ordnance were only used to fire a few rounds at a time, generally at low elevations, and with diminished powder charges. Hardly a gun fired, in the course of the whole year, as many rounds as it might be required to fire in a few hours of naval bombardment. The guns were not, therefore, strained by heated chambers, by excessive charges, by violent powder, by high elevations, or by "the moving accidents" of war. Yet the projectiles were so injured while escaping out of the bores that every one recovered (not being a "proof" shot) had to be destroyed and returned to the furnace. The act of mutilating these projectiles so injured the bores that inspectors of ordnance were employed, at salaries of about £300 a year, to register the damages inflicted by every fifty projectiles. The firing of each gun was stopped at each fiftieth discharge, until the ships returned into port, and the military authorities could be communicated with, and the soldier-inspector, with his staff of soldiers, embarked for a careful registration of the injuries. Many guns were thus found marked or injured, more or less, in the interior, by the efforts of the projectiles to escape. Though these marks were not always of a vital character, they produced a roughening of the surfaces, which still further obstructed the path of the gun-metal studs, and, consequently, enhanced the tendency of the projectile to revolve on those centres round its minor axis. Obviously, the greater force exerted in these erratic movements within the bore, the more difficult the effort to escape, and, consequently, the higher the powder-pressure accumulating in the rear, and the smaller in proportion the corresponding velocities and penetrating power.

The position of the marks and injuries found upon

the recovered projectiles, illustrate the misapplication of mechanical forces, under which they suffer loss of velocity and loss of endurance. Though no part of the projectile, except the two rings of metal studs, is supposed to touch it, the bore is frequently impressed with deep marks made by the edges of the grooves in the course of the oblique movements of the axis. The studs are found to have had their rounded edges worn down to the destruction of all their supposed centering properties; sometimes the studs are found crushed into wedge shapes, showing that they had overridden their grooves. This wedge-action, operating in two circles near the centre of the projectile, compresses its side walls so as nearly to draw the studs out of their grooves. The projectile being then supported upon its front and rear, with the studs in its centre withdrawn from the grooves, the studs are liable to pass over the lands, and to be wedged still more forcibly between the sides of the bore and the walls of the shell. Other erratic oblique movements within the gun may be traced by a careful study of the marks on the projectile.

The inspectors of ordnance report that the interiors of the guns are frequently marked and damaged along the driving edges of the grooves; roughened above the seat of the projectile, and enlarged a few inches in front of the seat of the rear studs. They also report that when more serious injuries are found, they usually consist of cracks and fissures in the grooves, which occur a few inches in front of the seat of the rear studs, where these come into "driving" bearing, or about a foot from the muzzle, where the front stud begins to do its work. The latter position seems to be most destructive when employing common shell, which have thinner walls than cored shot, while cored shot appear to inflict their share of the injuries just in front of the seat of their studs.

The *Bellerophon* has been particularly unfortunate in her guns. For training practice, the crews of Her Majesty's ships are in the habit of firing eight rounds from each gun every three months. While subjecting her ordnance to this mild ordeal, five 13 1/2-ton guns have been more or less damaged. Two of them were so disabled as to necessitate their return to the Royal Gun Factories for repair.

The *Prince Consort* has been hardly less unfortunate than the *Bellerophon*. The front studs did their destructive work so effectually on the muzzle of a 9-ton gun that it had to be rebuilt at a cost of £302. A 12 1/2-ton gun had its outer coils opened to a disabling extent, 28 1/2 inches from the muzzle, after only 21 rounds; and another 12 1/2-ton gun in the same ship developed a similar defect, but not so injurious an extent, 17 inches from the muzzle, after only 18 rounds.

The *Hercules* is the only ship mounting 18-ton guns which has yet passed through a three years' commission. Sea-sickness seems to have disturbed the stomachs of these soldier-made weapons to a considerable extent. Three out of eight of these pieces have given way in the interior while discharging eight projectiles per quarter, two of them being returned to the Royal Gun Factory for rebuilding or repair.

The *Agincourt*, another iron-clad in the Channel Squadron, has an old-fashioned armament of comparatively small ordnance, but it includes half-a-dozen 12 1/2-ton guns; of these latter one was disabled last year while discharging seven empty shells at a canvas target, and has been returned to the Royal Gun Factories to be rebuilt or repaired.

The *Devastation*, though not yet at sea, has suffered even more severely in her ordnance. This enormous and powerful iron-clad has her armament concentrated into four pieces, each of thirty-five tons weight. Before its embarkation it was deemed requisite to test guns of this nature at Woolwich Butts. Mild slow-burning pebble powder was used; no common shell was employed; the gun was discharged horizontally, with sufficiently long intervals between successive rounds to prevent the heating of the chamber, and consequent extra combustion of the charge; and generally the "Infant" was as carefully nursed as if a delicacy of the digestive organs was suspected. Notwithstanding this tender handling, the "Infant" had to be returned to the Royal Gun Hospital, after thirty-eight discharges from its 12-inch barrel, having subsequently endured thirty-five rounds from a smaller bore. The injuries sustained all occurred a few inches in advance of the seat of the studs, and consisted of four cracks or fissures in the grooves, burrs on the edge of the grooves, enlargement of diameter, and roughening from the escaping gases. The illustration given in our February 15th number shows how closely the position of these injuries corresponds with the point of "driving" contact of the rear studs, and of hammering by the front studs. Instead of being embarked in the *Devastation*, this gun had to be rebuilt, at an estimated cost of £700.

At Shoeburyness an 18-ton gun had its muzzle cracked in three places on Waterloo Day last, while discharging common shell.

About 108 tons weight of naval ordnance were permanently disabled during the year 1872, exclusive of guns less vitally injured, while discharging a few projectiles at targets. The vital importance of endurance in naval battles is enhanced by the small number of heavy guns carried, and by the introduction of the turret system, which denies them the relief otherwise accorded of a change of broadsides. Moreover, the re-armament of the iron-clad fleet, so urgently called for, becomes a doubtful gain, if the accession of penetrating force obtained by the substitution of heavier ordnance brings with it a rapidly increasing loss of endurance.

No wonder, then, that the navy remonstrates against being expected to fight with weapons that won't stand a combat with canvas targets. No wonder that the Admiralty, slow as it is to move, has listened attentively to the urgent remonstrances of its more intelligent subordinates. But human nature must be greatly changed if the War Department, which supplies the navy with such brittle tools, does not contest the right of naval artillery to be heard on such a question. Nor will the War Office officials be the less annoyed that most military men, conversant with the mechanical questions in-

involved, are of one mind with the Admiralty as to the misapplication of mechanical forces, which operates to the disruption of both guns and projectiles, and imparts to British ordnance, in official language, "decidedly the lowest velocities," and, consequently, "decidedly" the least penetrating power.

(From the London Broad Arrow, March 1.)

#### THE LAUNCH OF THE RALEIGH.

THE launch of the *Raleigh* on Saturday at Chatham adds a frigate to the British navy. The main features of her construction which distinguish her from the old-fashioned type of frigate, are the capacity to carry a heavy armament of a modern character and an enormous engine power; and the objects which have been sought in her design are an exceptional speed and a power of protecting herself with heavier artillery than is usually carried by vessels which may be able to match her in speed. These two characteristics give a special importance to the *Raleigh*. The first vessel of the kind built for the British navy was the *Inconstant*, which was launched in 1868, and her success has been so great as to induce the Admiralty to gradually add a small squadron of such vessels to the service. The *Active* and *Volage* succeeded the *Inconstant*, but were constructed with the idea of obtaining substantially the same advantages in a smaller compass. Since their construction it has been, after much discussion, decided that a high rate of speed and a heavy armament can only be guaranteed by wooden vessels of a large size. To obtain a speed of fifteen knots an hour it is absolutely essential to have engines of exceptional power and size; and it has been found impracticable, if not dangerous, to endeavor to obtain such a rate of speed in small vessels. So the construction of vessels like the *Active* and *Volage* was abandoned, and the *Raleigh* designed on a scale between the *Inconstant* and *Active*. And, indeed, since the *Raleigh* was laid down, so alive has the Admiralty been to the importance of increasing the strength of the navy in wooden vessels as to propose this year to construct two more vessels of the same kind—the *Bodadeca* and the *Bacchante*. The tonnage of the *Raleigh* is 3,210 tons; horse-power nominal, 800. She is built of iron on the transverse system, and has iron girders and supports. This iron skin is coated with two layers of wood, that nearest the iron being teak and the outer coating of oak and mixed woods. She will carry twenty-six guns of various calibre, the largest being 12 1/2 tons, or 200 pounders. It is admitted now by most naval constructors, that although size is an unquestionable disadvantage to ships in naval warfare, and that although expense is another objection in the construction of vessels of a large tonnage, yet the power of carrying a powerful armament is so essential, and is, for smaller vessels, so impossible of attainment, that these disadvantages are more than compensated by this one advantage, which can only be secured in frigates or large corvettes. Thus the *Volage* has only a burden of 2,322 tons, compared with the 4,066 tons of the *Inconstant*, and her cost was, of course, proportionately different; but the armament of the *Volage* is only equal to that carried on the upper deck of the *Inconstant*. The *Volage* carries guns on her upper deck only, and these consist of six 7-inch muzzle-loading rifle guns, two on each side of the quarter-deck, and one on each side forward of the funnel, with a poor 64 pounder pivot on her topgallant fore-castle, and another of the same calibre on her poop. But she is unable to carry any guns on her main deck, and cannot, therefore, compare with the *Inconstant*, whose main-deck battery consists of ten 12-ton rifled guns. This difference is so important, and marks so essentially the difference between the two vessels, as to warrant the conclusion which, as we have already said, has been arrived at, that diminished size and cost have been purchased at too dear a price. For their own class of vessels, both the *Volage* and the *Active* are perfect; they do not carry a pound too much weight, and their construction is so delicate as to be superior in some points to the *Inconstant*. In a cruise their speed would be surprising, and their success would be certain, could they only escape the batteries of a heavier armed vessel, and maintain their engine power at the highest pressure. But the Government seems to have decided that such vessels are too delicate to be relied upon in rough work, and that they are too severely handicapped, both in size and armament, for the ordinary purposes of naval warfare. While the *Raleigh* has not the tonnage of the *Inconstant*, it has a sufficiently powerful armament, and is guaranteed a sufficient speed to make her a more useful and trustworthy vessel than either the *Active* or *Volage*. She will have the inestimable advantages of standing easily the racket of powerful engines; will, or rather should, be a match in point of speed for any armed wooden vessel afloat, and will carry an armament capable of meeting on equal terms any antagonist of equal speed. The question still remains, to what extent we require the construction of wooden vessels like the *Raleigh*. The answer, at present, is that they cannot be dispensed with, and that their service in real action may be found, indeed, indispensable. Had the long-sustained battle between guns and armor been settled, this question need never, perhaps, have been asked, and the launch of the *Raleigh* would have been an error in judgment. But it is impossible to assert that the class of ironclads which must now be built can hope to satisfy every want in naval warfare. They have gradually developed such special characteristics, and are designed to meet two such apparently irreconcilable needs as perfect protection from shot and as perfect carriages for the largest guns, that they can only be regarded as having a special mission. Then, again, the introduction of torpedoes has levelled the differences of strength between wooden and ironclad ships, until at length it is recognized that to be deficient in the fastest wooden vessels we can build, which are capable of carrying fair armaments, is to want an element of real power in our fleets. The chances of naval warfare are still sufficiently open to leave many chances to our new wooden walls; but our wooden men-of-war must be superior in speed, construction, and

armament to their predecessors. Battles will not be fought out by ironclads alone, nor can our ironclads by themselves be capable of giving that protection to our commerce which in time of war it would have a right to demand. These new vessels such as the *Raleigh* may find themselves in the position to follow Admiral Farragut's advice—"The best way to defend your own ship is to attack the enemy vigorously;" and they would, we think, find it possible at times to follow this advice prudently as well as courageously. They would be exposed to the common enemy of all men-of-war, torpedoes; and they would have a friend too little recognized in such matters, smoke; while, probably, they would be superior in speed to any enemy. As an authority on these matters has said, in quoting the gallant Admiral's advice, he "nobly seconded the precept, as, in the wooden frigate *Hartford*, he fearlessly led his wood-built squadrons through lines of torpedoes and floating obstructions, past formidable batteries, and against even ironclad ships. The defensive value of gunpowder smoke was well illustrated when passing between long lines of batteries. On such occasions Admiral Farragut never returned the fire in heavy shot or shell, but in clouds of grape, which annoyed his opponents and distracted their aim, while obscuring the sides of his ships in their own smoke."

The *Raleigh* is the largest unarmored vessel that has been built at the Chatham dock-yard for years; her length is 298ft. between perpendiculars; over all, 309ft.; extreme breadth, 49ft.; depth in hold, 16ft. 1 3/4-in.; burthen in tons, 3,210; displacement, 4,780 tons.

MR. KIMBALL, Chief of the Revenue Marine Bureau of the Treasury Department, with Captain Merryman and Captain Faunce have been ordered to Florida to examine into the commercial necessity for life-saving stations on the coast of that State. In this connection it is interesting to know that the actual annual loss by wrecks on the South Florida coast, according to accurate statistics on file in the United States Court at Key West, averages nearly five millions of dollars. From 1848 to 1859 the value of wrecked vessels and cargoes on that coast was \$22,043,327, while in 1870 the loss was much above the general average. This includes both the salvage cases and the unadjudicated cases. These statistics have been compiled not only for the purpose of securing commercial protection on the coast but as an argument in favor of the project of an inter-oceanic canal between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic, which will save not only time and distance, but vast sums of money, by reason of the wrecks which yearly occur on the South Florida peninsula.

THE suit of Robert B. Forbes, Wm. H. Aspinwall, Leonard W. Jerome, and others against the United States, referred to the United States Court of Claims by act of Congress, has come up for argument this week. These gentlemen claim \$180,000 as damages alleged to have arisen from the detention of the steamer *Meteor* by the United States in the harbor of New York. This steamer was built by the owners to be used in the capture of the anglo-rebel cruiser *Alabama*, but not having been completed when that vessel was destroyed, effort was made to sell her to the government of Chili, which was then at war with Spain. The vessel was seized by the United States for an alleged violation of the neutrality laws, and condemned by decree of Judge Butts of the United States District Court for the Southern district of New York. This decree was reversed on an appeal by Judge Wilson of the Circuit Court, who held that the negotiations for the sale of the *Meteor* to Chili had been broken off, and never carried out. The claimants then went to Congress for damages, which they alleged they sustained during the period the vessel was detained by the United States, and Congress sent the case into the Court of Claims.

A NEW mitrailleuse, invented by James Patten Taylor of Tennessee, formerly examiner in the office of the Commissioner of Patents, was tried recently at Sand Point, Long Island. It is claimed that 700 rounds per minute can be discharged en fusillade and 1,000 rounds in volley firing. The weight of the gun is 700 pounds, and with the carriage, 1,000. It is about twenty-eight inches long from breech to muzzle, and contains twenty-four barrels. A lever, which slides on the breech-plate, sets in motion a revolving chamber plate, cleaning apparatus, etc., ejects the cartridges from discharged chambers, forces the brushes at the breech to clean them, brings forward the cartridges from the feeder, and discharges a volley of twenty-four shots when a small spring is touched. This is accomplished by an upward and downward motion of the lever. A small steel crank is used to make a fusillading fire. When the twenty-four chambers are exhausted, the further turning of the crank is prevented by a piece of mechanism. The magazine or feeder of the gun is a steel cylinder containing the same number of tubes as the gun. It will hold, when filled, 216 of the patent Berdan centre-fire cartridges, calibre 44. As the lever is worked, a number of iron pins, somewhat thicker than the largest sized lead pencil, plunge into the tubes of the magazine and force the cartridges forward into the barrels of the gun, where they are discharged by the twenty-four hammers set in motion by the crank or lever. The piece is moved horizontally, elevated and depressed for sighting by a simple attachment at the rear. A water casing is used to prevent overheating of the barrels. The water is poured through a small funnel into a circular compartment between the barrels and the outer casing of the gun.

The barrels are elliptically grouped at their muzzle, and a lateral or horizontal range is thus given, it is claimed, instead of throwing the projectiles up and down at right angles with the ground. In firing, the balls discharged spread right and left over a space of twelve feet wide, in a range of one hundred yards, twenty-four feet in two hundred, and so on. The gun experimented with will fire a distance of five hundred yards effectively.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE MILITARY CODE** this year are as "thick as blackbirds," and unless the officers of the National Guard look well after their interests the recently prepared new code will be completely destroyed. Among the latest is the reduction of the term of service from seven to five years, to which the better portion of the National Guard seriously objects, on the ground that it takes, with the little time devoted to military study, at least one-half of that time to make an ordinary private, let alone a non-commissioned or commissioned officer. Is it good policy to discharge a soldier just as he begins to understand his duty? Some are also wishing to amend the code so as to exclude from further service in the National Guard all members over forty-five years of age, thereby saving the usual reduction in taxation allowed these members, who, it is claimed, are rendered unfit by age for active service. Is this not very much like turning the old horse out to die? Despite age these veterans are frequently the best officers of the National Guard, and have performed many years of almost gratuitous duty for the State. Yet a Mr. Young recently asked in the Assembly, through a resolution which was adopted, that the Adjutant-General be requested to cross off the rolls of the National Guard all the old soldiers or veterans of the State service. Another bill, introduced still more recently, we don't understand exactly, as we take it from the associated press dispatches. It provides that members of the National Guard shall do duty for seven years (which they do at present), unless disability after enlistment shall incapacitate them; also that every commissioned or non-commissioned officer, musician, and private be exempt from jury duty, but not entitled to a reduction from the assessed valuation of his real or personal property, and that no member of the National Guard be discharged from service except for physical disability or expiration of his term. Some time since some one wanted to make, through legislative means, officers of the National Guard ineligible for public office. But we cannot begin to remember all the amendments proposed during the present session of the Legislature, all of which seem designed to cover some individual interest, and none of which are in the least beneficial to the National Guard. We trust somebody is watching the Legislature.

**THIRD INFANTRY.**—We learn from reliable sources that early in January last a complete appeal was taken to the Headquarters at Albany in regard to the troubles in this organization, in which both sides were fully heard, and the fullest papers presented on the merits of the case, as between the colonel on one side, and the two discontented captains on the other. It is now April, and as yet no decision seems to have been arrived at one way or another, a result which can hardly be called desirable in any view of the question. While the law's delays are harassing enough in civil suits, military justice has always borne the enviable character of being prompt and decisive, to the great benefit of the military service. Why is this promptness lost sight of in the case of the Third? The authorities can hardly think it possible that a regiment can be in any sort of discipline while such a dead lock exists between superiors and inferiors, two captains refusing to obey a colonel, one of them striking him on duty, and still no decision, no justice dealt to anyone. A specimen of the effects of such a course is found in a late incident occurring in this regiment. It seems that one of the two malcontent captains has recently prepared a modest request to the Adjutant-General direct, without troubling the intermediate channels of authority, to divide this already skeleton regiment into two battalions, and officers who should have known better have been foolish enough to sign it. Now whatever the merits of this proposition may be, there is little question that it is in the worst taste at the present time, when a matter involving the very life of discipline is still pending before the proper authorities. First settle the discipline question one way or the other, and then it is time to ask the Commander-in-Chief for favors. Till that question is decided, the Third remains the merest mob of armed men, and the self-respecting officers therein are powerless for good. Therefore, in the name of justice and common sense, we appeal to the powers at Albany to decide this question, and save the National Guard from the longer existence of its standing disgrace—the demoralized Third.

**REVIEWS IN LIMITED SPACE.**—Since it seems to have become a necessity among National Guard regiments that, for the sake of indoor show and to give *clat* to military proceedings, reviews shall invariably be held on all possible military occasions, Inspector-General Morris, by way of gratifying this desire and in part carrying out the regulations for the inspection of a battalion, has thus far during his inspection adopted a plan for these reviews which has heretofore been commented upon in these columns. We, however, were in error in crediting the Inspector-General as the originator of this plan of a review, Colonel Austen, commanding Forty-seventh Infantry, having been the first to introduce it. General Morris, however, seems to have taken a fancy to this style of review, and therefore has introduced it at every subsequent inspection held. The last issue of the *New York Aea*, of which General Morris is editor, gives place, editorially, to the following remarks of a correspondent in support of this plan of indoor reviews:

As the space within doors, and at our parade grounds, is rarely sufficient for conducting a review in strict accordance with Regulations; as common time is no longer used at

reviews, and double time would be dangerous in most of our drill-halls, which are not on the ground floor, a form of review has been devised, resulting from necessity, which, while it accomplishes all the objects of the review, comes as near the form in the Regulations as limited space permits. As a substitute for the second passage in double time, the regiment is marched in column by division, which is an excellent test of the steadiness of the men in ranks, and the condition of instruction in the regiment. Following the analogy of the double time passing in Regulation, no salutes of any kind are given while passing in column by division, which is proper, as all the honors are rendered at the first passing of the review.

The regiment having closed ranks after the salute in open ranks, instead of wheeling by company to the right, the column of fours is formed. When the head of the column reaches the second marker, the column by company is formed by the successive movement, and passes the reviewing officers as prescribed in Regulations. On reaching the third marker, the column of fours is formed by each company in succession, and arms brought to the right shoulder shift, and are carried thus until the end of the march. The column proceeds to its former place in line and over its former path without halting, forming divisions where it had before formed companies. No salutes are given the second time passing. The column of fours is formed again as in the former instance, and the battalion returns to its original position in line.

The band wheels out of the column when it is passing the reviewing officer the first time, and remains opposite him until the column by division approaches, when it regains its place at the head of the column, and continues there during the rest of the march. It begins to play when the column is first put in motion, and continues playing until within ten paces of its post in line for review, when it ceases, in order that the colonel's command for the column to halt may be the more easily heard. The rest of the review is executed as explained in Regulations. This plan may be all very well in its way, but if the Tactics must be altered to suit the size of the room, on occasions of this kind, why not close the ceremony of a review when the troops arrive on the original ground? Why pass again by division?

**MAJOR-GENERAL HANCOCK IN THE BURG.**—The Forty-seventh regiment, of Williamsburgh, Colonel Austen, was particularly complimented on the evening of March 27, when Major-General Winfield S. Hancock, U. S. Army, commanding the Military Division of the Atlantic, reviewed the battalion at its armory. The occasion was one which in itself, as a matter of course, drew an extraordinarily large assemblage, fairly taxing the utmost limits of the somewhat spacious armory. The people lined the sides of the main drill-room four or five deep, and consequently interfered greatly with the movements of the battalion. Still, Colonel Austen managed the troops most satisfactorily, and gave an excellent exhibition of the many good qualities of his command. The battalion in line formed an open square, the band and drum corps occupying a position in the space between the companies of the right wing, the point of review being on a raised platform opposite the centre of the battalion. One would suppose that a review under such circumstances, even according to the latest revision of the Tactics, an impossibility. Yet Colonel Austen, by slight modulation of his recently introduced plan for indoor reviews, managed his command without confusion. The reviewing party comprised, in addition to the distinguished leader, Captain Mitchell, Fifth Infantry; Captain Wharton, Nineteenth Infantry; and First Lieutenant Ward, Twenty-second Infantry, U. S. Army, aide-de-camp; also, Brigadier-General Meserole and staff, Eleventh brigade N. G. The front rank of the battalion only was inspected, it being an impossible feat to pass to the rear when the ranks were opened, in consequence of the crowd. The battalion looked very handsome and steady during the entire ceremony, and the passage was remarkably good under the circumstances. To accomplish this, the battalion—which by the way numbered ten commands of 12 files—broke into column of fours, marched around the room until its head reached what ordinarily would be the right of the line; here it halted and closed in mass, the right marking time until this was completed. The right company then changed direction, marched forward, came into line, and followed the band, each succeeding company forming and marching in like manner. The band turned out successfully, and the majority of the companies passed, preserving about half distance, in good style, some of the fronts being particularly commendable. After passage, the companies, as usual, broke into column of fours, and the battalion halted in its original position, coming into line, and the reviewing being closed without the introduction of the ridiculous movement of attempting another passage by division. The battalion movements which preceded the review were few and successful, and the dress parade which followed most creditable, the band in beating off having simply to march down the centre of the square, and return in like way. A pleasant concert and hop closed the military proceedings, the guests meanwhile being handsomely entertained in the Board of Officers' room. General Hancock spoke in high terms of the appearance and movements of the regiment, and seemed as much pleased with the reception tendered him, as the regiment and its officers seemed honored in his attendance. Such honors, by so distinguished an officer of the Army, are among the few encouragements received by the National Guard service, and the Forty-seventh very naturally feel particularly elated that it should be the first to receive these attentions.

**SEVENTY-NINTH INFANTRY (HIGHLANDERS).**—Special orders (?) from headquarters directed the companies of this command to assemble at the armory in full-dress uniform—shako, epaulettes, and white gloves—for review and inspection, at 8 o'clock P. M., during the past week. In the absence of Lieutenant-Colonel Stetson, commanding (on leave

of absence), Major (elect) Joseph Laing and Acting Adjutant T. D. Hughes acted as inspectors. The regiment is ordered to assemble at the State Arsenal April 16, at 8 o'clock P. M., in full-dress uniform—shako, epaulettes, and white gloves.

**HOWITZER BATTERY, ELEVENTH BRIGADE.**—An election to fill vacancies caused by the resignation of Sergeant W. G. Wilson and Corporal George Rawlins, and such other vacancies as may occur, will be held at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, April 7, at 8 o'clock.

**NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' SALUTES.**—The following letter, in reply to one addressed to General Sherman, commanding the U. S. Army, by Inspector-General Morris, will be interesting to the National Guard, as it decides questions discussed lately:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11, 1873.

General Wm. H. Morris, 9 Spruce street, New York City:

GENERAL: General Sherman directs me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of date the 8th inst. and to make answer:

1. A non-commissioned officer in command of a company, platoon, or section, when passing in review does salute the reviewing officer. This is established by custom.

2. He does not drop the point of his sword, but salutes in the manner prescribed for non-commissioned officers.

3. Non-commissioned officers, except those in command of company, etc., do not salute.

At many posts the non-commissioned staff salute when passing in review; but the custom is not universal, and cannot be called the rule. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. TOURTELLOTTÉ,

Colonel and A. D. C.

It is very evident from this that whenever a non-commissioned officer is an acting commissioned officer in command he follows the rules laid down for commissioned officers as far as consistent with his rank. Under general rules for reviews the Tactics make no provision for the saluting of the non-commissioned staff of a regiment, nor is it intended that they shall salute; and this rule is generally followed among the best instructed portion of the National Guard service. The practice, however, of non-commissioned officers parading with swords drawn, except on occasions of review, inspection, or where arms are presented is unauthorized.

**FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—Companies G, F, A, I, and B, of this regiment, Colonel Austen, were ordered to assemble at the armory in fatigue uniform for drill and instruction on the evening of April 4; Companies K, E, D, and C, April 10; and the regiment, April 16. Assembly at 8 o'clock P. M. The drill of the 16th inst. will be for instruction in street firing. Members of the command not provided with dress uniforms are directed to procure the same immediately, to be in readiness for the coming spring and summer parades; failure to procure will not be received as an excuse for absence.

**THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.**—This regiment, Colonel Jourdan, is ordered to assemble at the Brooklyn Rink, Clermont avenue, near Myrtle, in full uniform (white gloves), for inspection by Inspector-General Wm. H. Morris, April 10, at 7:30 P. M. Any person who may not have been a member a sufficient length of time to procure his full-dress uniform will appear in fatigue. The non-commissioned staff, band, and drum corps will report to the adjutant at 7:45 P. M. No member of the regiment will be permitted to enter the building on the evening of the inspection, unless properly uniformed and equipped, and in time to participate in the parade. Warrants have been granted to the following-named non-commissioned officers, they having passed the Board of Examination: First Sergeants—Henry S. Watkins, Company A; William F. Tooker, Company C; Edward Flood, Company E; John H. Bell, Company I; Edward F. Merriam, Company F; Sergeants—Henry A. Dumont, Byron A. Beale, and Chauncey B. Graham, Company A; Edward H. Coffin, Company C; Simon Strong, Company D; Abraham W. Tower, William A. Sagar, and James Ryan, Company E; William E. Dixon, Company F; George R. Read, Company H; Richard Dinsmore, George W. Smith, and Lathrop S. Cole, Company I; Corporals—Robert Rae, Company A; William S. Gender and Samuel L. Pelgriff, Company B; Theodore D. Secor, Company D; Francis Campbell, Wm. McNeely, and Thomas E. Moran, Company E; John H. Miller and James F. Lawrence, Company G; George W. Benson and James W. Sinclair, Company I.

**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—This regiment is ordered to assemble at the Rink, Clermont avenue, in full-dress uniform, on Tuesday evening, 15th instant, at eight o'clock, for inspection and review by Brevet Major-General Morris, I. G. S. N. Y. Admission for others than members in full uniform will be by tickets. The field, line officers, sergeants, and eight files from each company, will assemble at the arsenal for battalion drill on the evenings of April 11 and 25, at 7:45 o'clock.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH (BATTALION) INFANTRY.**—This battalion, Colonel Burger, is ordered to assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, April 9, at 7:30 o'clock P. M., for special inspection, and at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, in full uniform, April 17, at 7:30 o'clock P. M., for inspection and review by Brevet Major-General William H. Morris, I. G. S. N. Y.

**BRITISH NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—We are indebted to General Schenck, our minister to England, for a copy of the annual report of the British National Rifle Association, which has just been issued. In connection with the late

Wimbledon meeting, it is stated that the actual surplus, including the excess of cost in erecting and removing the pavilion over the amount of rent received for it from the refreshment contractors, was £4,815 (\$24,075), and the invested capital, which in 1871 stood at £5,466, is now increased to £10,956 (\$54,780). The report states, with reference to this sum, that a capital of considerable amount is not only necessary to meet the unforeseen emergencies which may again arise, as in 1871; but it adds to the stability of the association, enables those who are intrusted with the conduct of its affairs to act with a freedom of expenditure which is often a necessary prelude to sound economy, and in all matters of contract or purchase insures those advantages which accompany the possession of available funds. At any moment such a reduction of receipts or such an increase of expense may occur as to render a resort to the invested capital again necessary, and the progress or conditions of rifle shooting may from time to time involve costly alterations of plant, etc. The large item of £2,402 was received as entrance fees for the Queen's Prize contest, £1,749 for the Alexandra, £1,601 for the Carton prizes, £738 for the "Windmill," £567 for the "Extra" prizes, and £513 for the "Albert." Her Majesty, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Cambridge gave special donations amounting to £400. During the year several new rifle associations at home and in the colonies have allied themselves with the parent association.

The membership dues are \$5 gold annually, and the life membership \$50 gold; the donation of a prize of not less than twice this amount entitling the donor to a life membership. The association has 3,115 members, thirty-one less than in 1871. Of these 609 are life members, five honorary members, and 2,501 annual members, two-thirds of whom are out of town members paying one-half dues. The gross annual resources of the association appear therefore to amount to about £10,000 or \$50,000. At the Wimbledon meeting 1,209 prizes were contended for, amounting in value to £10,773 or nearly \$60,000 currency. This is a hopeful showing for our own National Rifle Association, which shows receipts for the first year of its existence, and before it has had a meeting, of over \$37,000, and has nearly \$8,000 in prizes to offer at its coming meeting next summer, with a good prospect of nearly as much more.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

—THE Twenty-third will give its fifth social concert at Burnham's Academy, Brooklyn, this (Saturday) evening.

—THE Third Cavalry, Colonel Budke, held its annual reception and ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms on Thursday evening.

—THE fifth annual concert and reception of the Thirty-first regiment, Colonel Roehr, takes place at the regimental armory, Brooklyn, on the evening of April 15.

—AN elaborate plan and bill providing for the building of armories for the use of New York city troops, whereby several organizations can be accommodated in one building, has been presented at Albany.

—INSPECTOR-GENERAL MORRIS does not expect to entirely complete his inspections until fall. We look forward with interest to his report to the Governor at the termination of his tour.

—THE Thirteenth armory bill, having been reduced from \$175,000 to \$150,000, passed to a third reading of the Assembly on Wednesday, and will, we are assured, pass the Assembly, and has excellent prospects in the Senate.

—IT looks as if the New York Board of Supervisors were likely to aid in carrying out our views of reducing the First division, and it is stated that the Adjutant-General has been requested to disband several very thin organizations.

—ADJUTANT-GENERAL RATHBONE highly compliments Major-General Woodward, commanding Second division, by adopting for the use of the National Guard, and publishing in General Orders, the system of keeping the record books recently issued by the State.

—THE Thirty-second regiment will be reviewed and hold a dress parade on Tuesday evening next at their armory. Cards of admission have been issued, and we understand there will be a concert by the band at the close of the review and parade, for which there will be no charge.

—THE United Train Artillery, of Providence, R. I., will hold its ninety-eighth anniversary reception at Howard Hall, Providence, April 22. The entertainments of this command are as famous as the command itself, and this anniversary will be attended by a large delegation of New York's and Rhode's best militia.

—THE Seventh's popular band gave its last concert before a large and select assemblage at the regimental armory on Saturday evening last. The selections were, as usual, of the choicest character, and rendered, under the direction of Gen. Grafula, in excellent style, calling forth numerous encores. The new piece, technically termed the "Barnyard Symphony," in which the voices of the barnyard were peculiarly introduced, was one of the attractive features of the concert.

—THE Inspector-General "overhauled" the Separate Troop and Battery B, Second division, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, and the Separate Troop Fifth brigade, Second division, on Tuesday evening. Next week (8th) he will "go through" the Eleventh brigade cavalry and the Thirty-second Infantry,

and on Thursday afternoon, 4:30 P. M., inspect the Seventh regiment at Union Park, New York, and the Thirteenth Infantry, at the Brooklyn Rink, the same evening.

—SOME one recently suggested in a daily paper that that portion of Reservoir square asked for by the Seventh regiment for armory purposes, be set apart as the site for the new Tombs proposed to be erected, so that the poor prisoners may have the healthful influences of looking out upon the green sward and foliage of this "breathing spot" of the city. Query: What do the surrounding property owners think of this last proposition?

—THE New York Times in one portion of a recent issue urges the reduction of the First division by a partial disbandment of its white troops, and in another column encourages the organization of a colored regiment, and states that the Inspector-General will muster the regiment into the State service as soon as its organization is completed. This of course can be done only by resorting to special legislation.

CONNECTICUT.—Fourth Connecticut.—It is a long time since we have been able to record any of the proceedings of this regiment—never, in fact, since the account of its encampment a year ago at South Norwalk. On Friday evening of last week, at Stamford, we were enabled to see a portion of the command assembled once more, for the first time since the encampment, we believe. The battalion present comprised three companies, C, D, and F, from Stamford, Norwalk, and Greenwich, respectively, equalized into four companies of ten files each for the evening, and exercised by Colonel Hoyt and Lieutenant-Colonel Fairchild. The drill took place in the town hall of Stamford, and lasted from 8 to 9:30 P. M. In a great many respects it was open to severe criticism, but this does not lie in the direction in which militia regiments so often err—want of discipline. As we said nearly a year ago, so we are glad to repeat now, the discipline of the Fourth Connecticut is as good as we have ever seen in any militia organization whatever, and well up to that of many crack volunteer regiments. The men in uniform are very careful to keep their distance from officers, both on and off duty, which is more than we can say of many other commands that we have yet seen in the National Guard, and the greatest respect and self-respect pervade all ranks. But when it comes to drill, the faults are very numerous and grave, evincing the greatest necessity on the part of the officers of the Fourth to get together more frequently, if they ever hope to become perfect at battalion drill. The reason of these faults is very simple: the command does not assemble often enough. We hear that the other wing, at Bridgeport and beyond, has drilled frequently and to great advantage during the winter, whereas these three companies have only been together once before since they were at Camp Jewell. This should not be so. The State ought to provide more facilities for the assembly of its country regiments, on which after all they would have to place most dependence in case of sudden war. Companies, however well drilled individually, cannot be combined for battalion exercises too often to secure uniformity of execution; and the Fourth Connecticut showed this want of practice together, to a very great extent, at this drill. First. The men were not used to drilling in a hall and seemed to be very timid about stepping out. At times the whole column was keeping a step of not more than fourteen inches. The space was only about large enough for two companies, and the wheels were very much broken by two huge stoves at opposite sides of the hall. The acoustic qualities of the place were simply atrocious, so much so that the clearest commands frequently became utterly unintelligible when successive orders followed each other. The echoes jumbled everything together, up in one of those abominations known to architects as a "cove ceiling." Second. The company officers were altogether too timid about cautioning their men in the commonest matters of detail. For example: in the course of forty or fifty company wheels, the men invariably looked to the pivot instead of the marching flank, and the consequence was that all company wheels were about as bad as could be, and not a company officer seemed to be able to correct this error in the A B C of tactics. Then, too, in the leading company, some individual, who thought probably that he was practicing the gallopade for a ball, set the fashion of shuffling his feet instead of lifting them—a trick speedily spreading to the rest of the column, with consequences decidedly harrowing to the nerves of the listener. There were times during the drill when we felt that a little judicious profane objurgation, somewhat in Phil Kearny's style, would have brought some of these gentlemen to their bearings; but alas! there was no one to "cuss them out of their boots," and there were a good many solemn-faced old soldiers in the ranks who set the ball rolling that none could stop. Truly, it takes years of experience to be up to the tricks of veterans and school-boys. Third. Colonel Hoyt is altogether too quick in his commands, and his officers generally follow suit. The commands of caution are not dwelt on long enough, and the men have not quite time to grasp the idea fully, when "March" comes down like the crack of a whip. The result is nervousness—a nervousness extending to officers and men alike, and producing little mistakes, which unsteady the men to a marked degree. A commanding officer, with so many green hands mixed up with old soldiers, needs to dwell long on the cautionary commands, and by all means to tranquillize the excitement which a drill before spectators is sure to occasion to a greater or less extent. The old fellows in the ranks in general laugh in their sleeves, and help the confusion by their sly tricks. Moreover, we observed that, at the very commencement of the drill, the colonel indulged in a double quick movement in column of fours. This was extremely injudicious, as it unsteadied the men terribly. Experience will cure these matters in the future, we are persuaded, and we should not be half so free in our remarks were we not convinced that the Fourth Connecticut is bound to improve by criticism, and were not the faults we have pointed out faults of execution easily remedied. The strong

point in the Fourth's drill is its company distances. These are better kept than we ever remember to have seen before, outside of the regulars, and over and over again we saw the wheeling into line done so handsomely that dressing was hardly more than a form thereafter. Its manual of arms is also quite good. It does not aim at the wooden clock precision of some "fuss and feathers" organizations, but it is very good indeed, and all in one time, which is saying considerable. We hope, for its own sake, that the Fourth Connecticut men will get together as frequently as possible, improve their good points, and get rid of their bad. That they will do so in time we feel convinced, for they all seem extremely anxious to learn, and correct mistakes with better order and temper than many a regiment twenty times older.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The following communication from one of the "Heath Zouaves" has been received for publication in reply to the aspersion cast upon the company regarding that champion flag by a Woolvereln correspondent in the JOURNAL of March 15:

ARMORY HEATH ZOUAVES,  
ALLEGHANY CITY, March 17, 1873: }

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In order that you may be able, should you think proper, to answer your correspondent at Ypsilanti, Michigan, I, in the absence of the company commander, take the liberty of sending you the reason the flag in our possession is called a champion flag. While preparing for a tour of the States with the intention of drilling any company that should desire to do so for the championship, the officers of the Fourteenth Infantry Pennsylvania National Guard caused the above-named flag to be made and presented to us, it being admitted that we were the best drilled and disciplined company in our (Eighteenth) division. The remainder of the communication is so gross a misstatement of the facts as entitle the author to no other consideration than that of "silent contempt;" and I assure you any communication sent this company desiring a competitive drill will receive proper consideration, no more, no less. Very respectfully your obedient servant,

THOS. INWIN,  
First Sergeant Heath Zouaves.

The new militia bill recently introduced has passed the Senate of the Legislature, amended so as to reduce the maximum force to 5,000 men. One member of the Senate very properly opposed the reduction, stating that in New York city the commander of the military forces could any morning call together 11,000 well-organized military. The proposition to make the maximum 5,000 men in a great State like Pennsylvania was simply ludicrous. In support of the amendment, however, Mr. Ratan said that 5,000 was all the military authorities of this bill asked for, in the original bill, but the number had been increased in the House. Mr. Davis held that all the militia was required for was to put down local insurrections, and two or three companies in any locality was enough; 3,000 or 4,000 militia was all that was necessary in time of peace in Pennsylvania. The bill was further amended to make the amount payable to each company not more than \$500 per annum, and passed. The Pittsburgh Leader, in alluding to this bill, says: Hartranft's bill, as amended, has passed the Senate, and is now, in all probability, one of the laws of the State. It is in the shape of a supplement to existing laws, allowing the present mode of collecting militia tax and disbursing the same in each county, to remain in force, and in addition provides for the payment to each company of the National Guard of five hundred dollars out of the State treasury. There are to be but one hundred companies in the State, with an active membership of not more than fifty men to each company, thus making five thousand in all. The Commander-in-Chief designates an officer in each division to act as inspector in order to decide what companies are entitled to the \$500. Inspections are to be held annually, and each company commander must make out a complete roll of his men, and make oath to its correctness. This roll, when approved by the inspector, will be forwarded to the Adjutant-General, who sends it to the State Treasurer, who draws a warrant to the order of the company commander. No provisions are made to hold the company commanders accountable for the disbursement of the funds placed in their charge. The provisions of the act are so loose that it affords abundant opportunity for dishonest men holding commissions as captains to apply the \$500 to their own uses, and the result will be that this opportunity will be taken advantage of to such an extent that the next Legislature will repeal this supplement, and give us nothing in its stead. The provisions of the bill referring to inspectors is an insult of the gravest nature to every major-general and brigadier in the State; it amounts to a vote of "want of confidence," and General Hartranft has been guilty of, to say the least of it, an indiscretion when he procures the passage of an act making his subordinate general officers nothing more nor less than nonentities.

The annual report of the Adjutant-General for 1872 show that during the year 1872, 30 companies were organized and 89 disbanded, owing to the expense of maintaining organization, which they were unable to meet. The National Guard now numbers 15 regiments and 6 battalions, comprising, with the unattached companies, 323 company organizations, viz.: 8 cavalry, 6 artillery, and 309 infantry. The aggregate of the National Guard comprises 1,126 commissioned officers (including division, brigade, and regimental staff), and 13,566 enlisted men. There were enrolled in Philadelphia county, as furnished by the county commissioners, 86,364. Of these 17,200 were exempt, and 69,164 subject to military duty. The breech-loaders (4,500) have all been distributed, and the only arm now on hand for issue to infantry organizations is the muzzle loading musket. There were created during the year about one-third the number of new organizations which were reported the year preceding; the number of companies disbanded during the year has been in excess of the preceding in nearly the same ratio. In January, 1867, the organized militia comprised only eight companies. During the last six years 483 company organizations have been added, and 168 companies disbanded.

Pennsylvania will never have a decent militia law if the above is a sample of what some of its intelligent legislators think of the National Guard and its requirements. There is a rumor that under this bill the militia will be entirely reorganized and a large portion disbanded or consolidated, and that the First division in Philadelphia will be reduced to a brigade. If any city in the Union requires a well organized division of militia, that city is Philadelphia, and if any State an efficient National Guard, that State is Pennsylvania. Yet its legislators and its people don't take that view apparently; still, they may some day, as heretofore, realize their unprotected condition.

## FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE new Turkish Military Code has just been printed and issued to the army.

THE Italian Government is about to organize a military topographical institution.

A CAMP is being formed at Lyons, and from 20,000 to 30,000 men will assemble there in May and June.

GENERAL VON HARTMANN, who commanded the Second Bavarian Army Corps during the late war, is dead.

THE German Chancellor demands 4,000,000 thalers of the French indemnity for strategical and administrative telegraphs.

THE military manoeuvres in Switzerland last year have demonstrated the imperfections which exist in the equipment of the Federal artillery.

THE depot horses of the French army, to the number of 9,300, were to be inspected by artillery officers appointed for the purpose on the 20th ult.

THE negotiations relating to the definite retirement of the German troops from France are now said to be not so far advanced as had been supposed.

As a consequence of the artillery experiments made recently at Calais, the Creusot Works have just received an order for steel cannon for the French Government.

A NEW gun, a 25-pounder, will shortly be introduced into the British service. The gun will weigh a little over a ton, and will be used as a siege gun in India, and other places, where the regular heavy siege-train cannot travel.

THE total number of Russian troops who will proceed against Khiva does not exceed from 10,000 to 12,000 men. Generals Varofkan and Markozoff are mentioned as the sub-commanders of the expedition under General Kaufmann. The march of the troops upon Khiva will be concentric.

THE ex-Crown Prince of Hanover has been assigned the honorary colonelcy of the 43d Austrian Infantry regiment. The motive for conferring this distinction is to avoid offending the German Emperor during his visit by obtruding upon him the sight of the old Hanoverian Life Guard uniform which the prince usually wears.

A LETTER from Essen says there will be sent to the Vienna Exhibition from the cannon foundry of Herr Krupp, two specimens of his "big guns" that surpass anything of the kind the establishment has hitherto produced. The first is a gigantic brass cannon, the tube of which will be 6.70 metres in length, and 1.46 metre in diameter, and which will weigh 760 quintals, or 38,000 kilogrammes. The second is manufactured of one block of brass four metres long and 1.50 metre in diameter, of the weight of 1,000 quintals, or 50,000 kilogrammes. These two model guns are to be despatched to Vienna toward the middle of the month by special train, via Glessen, Nuremberg, and Posen.

MR. GOSCHEN, First Lord of the Admiralty, has submitted to the House of Commons the British naval estimates for the ensuing fiscal year. They exceed those of last year by \$1,702,880. His statement showed that on the first of January, 1873, the navy in commission comprised 160 steamships and vessels, including yachts, tenders, and gunboats, mounting 1,283 guns, and manned by 28,371 officers, men, and boys, and sixty-four sailing ships and vessels (including twenty-five coast-guard tenders), mounting 439 guns, and manned by 4,597 officers, men, and boys; giving a grand total of 224 ships and vessels, mounting 1,772 guns, manned by 33,328 officers, men, and boys. Six vessels have been completed during the past quarter, and there are twenty others in course of construction or finish at the various government dockyards and by private firms of shipbuilders.

THE Spanish army, says the *Naval and Military Gazette*, appears to be now utterly demoralized. In Catalonia the men seem to have everything their own way, have little duty to do, and do it or not as they think proper. The superior officers are trying all they can to restore order in parts where it has not been so completely disturbed. At Valladolid, on the occurrence of some unpleasant symptoms, General Ripoli held an imposing review, and ended by addressing the troops in the most earnest terms, imploring them not to forget their duty to the country, but his appeal did not have much effect. General Contreras is trying to quell the insubordinate spirit of his own army, to which the demagogues had done most evil. A battalion sent into Lerida to fight against the Carlists refused to obey their officers, and disbanded, declaring that all compulsory service was at an end since the proclamation of the Republic. In short, matters are so bad that it seems very doubtful if the army could now be got to face a foreign invader.

THE Russian expedition to Khiva, under General Kauffmann, numbers only 7,000 men, mostly drawn from troops stationed in the military districts of Turkestan and Orenburg. The Grand Duke Nicholas Constantinovich has left for Tashkend, where he will join the expedition. Russian officers of the Guards have petitioned the War Ministry in great numbers for permission to take part. "The great but also the small Asiatic sovereigns," says the *Russian World*, "are unable to understand the superiority in force of any power, and consequently fancy they will be able to continue to perpetrate their crimes with perfect impunity. It is necessary, therefore, to prove to the Khan of Khiva that we are able not only to defend our territory, but also to punish the treachery and crimes of our neighbors." According to the *World*, "the delay in sending out the expedition is attributable to the extraordinary difficulties which the troops will have to surmount during their march to the Khanate."

AN important change in the organization of the army of Spain is to take place. The conscription is abolished, and voluntary enlistment is to supersede it. Every year the strength of the active army will be fixed by

the Cortes. The reserve will consist of the entire male population of the country between the ages of twenty and twenty-three, and the term of service will be three years—the first under the colors, and the other two as the War Minister may dispose. It is confirmed that a Federalist spirit exists in the Spanish army, and that at Barcelona it was owing to the resistance of the civil population that the army has not been broken up. The new Minister of War, General Acosta, was lately promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general for his services against the Carlists. He had been a field-marshal since 1869, and captain-general of the Balearic Islands under Prim's administration, and of Valencia under that of Admiral Malcampo, and subsequently.

THE London *Iron* thinks that "the present system of placing the scientifically educated naval architect in servile subordination to a naval officer, knowing scarcely anything beyond the mere practical duties of his profession, ought not to be tolerated. Those acquainted with the history of our navy," it says, "are well aware that this system is the growth of late years, and that it is not so very long since nearly every office which Mr. Goschen considers it so essential should be occupied by naval men, was filled, and filled with credit, by civilians. We have recently had many changes, but every change appears only to have led from bad to worse; and unless some steps are taken to give more responsible positions to the scientific servants of the Admiralty, it is vain to expect any diminution in the present wasteful expenditure, or to hope for any improvement in the frightful mismanagement which now prevails."

FIELD-MARSHAL VON MOLTKE, having been congratulated by a foreign officer, says the *Militär Wochenblatt*, on the skill with which he conducted the campaign of 1870-71, replied as follows: In order to execute a clever plan you must have confidence in your troops, and these in their turn ought to preserve the same feeling toward their chief. One must have the conviction that our forces are equal to what we demand from them, and in that respect I can say with pride that ours have not deceived us. On the contrary, our army always surpassed our best hopes. On all sides mistakes are made; and therefore, in many respects, we must attribute our success in this memorable war to the fact that the French committed still more numerous and serious mistakes than we. The secret of our operations consisted chiefly in this—that, however defectively our plan might be arranged, and even in the most unfavorable circumstances, we knew that each of our corps d'armee would fight for at least twenty-four hours, and in that time one could always find means to repair an error, especially with the aid our troops were ever ready to render each other.

GENERAL TROCHU, in his last speech in the Assembly, when bidding farewell to public life, warned his countrymen against the danger of legends and the stars and spangles of over-patriotic historians. The legend in Paris and in all the large democratic centres of France is that the hastily-raised Republican forces played greater havoc with the Germans than the troops of the Empire led by incapable and traitors. One or two military writers have raised up their voices against these fictions, and the startling belief held in the capital that the defence of Paris is the most splendid exploit on record. If anything could demolish these legends it would be the statistics of the losses of the German army, to which M. Wachter, in the interest of truth and honesty, draws the attention of his countrymen. M. Wachter declares that these figures are correct: they show in round numbers that the Germans at St. Privat lost 20,500 men; nearly 15,000 at Rezonville; over 10,000 at Woerth; 9,000 at Sedan; 5,000 at the siege of Metz; about 1,000 at the siege of Strasburg, and at the siege of Paris, which lasted from September 18 to January 28, 11,500. The above figures show that the 40,000 troops of MacMahon killed and wounded in the course of a few hours nearly as many men as the 500,000 defenders of Paris did in four months and a half. The statistics also show that out of the 127,000 Germans killed or wounded during the war, 76,000 were put hors de combat by the army of the Rhine. However, no amount of trustworthy statistics will kill such legends as that of General Cremer having destroyed over 7,000 Badenese at Nuits, and the tremendous slaughter inflicted by Republican generals.

"THE plans of the German Government," says the *Pull Mall Gazette*, "for the protection of the Empire by the fortification of strong places, show how little they are of opinion that fortresses are valueless in modern war. In the memorial accompanying the scheme laid before the Federal Council, three leading principles are defined for the guidance of German engineering in the future. The first is the formation of important centres of defence, such as Metz, Strasburg, Cologne, Posen, Königsberg; second, the gradual suppression of strong places of secondary value; and third, the increase of the defensive materiel and the construction of casemates in all the Imperial fortresses. It is remarked that the obstinate defence of a fortress sufficiently large and well provided with the requisite materiel may arrest an enemy during an indefinite period, and that if the French fortresses often succumbed after a bombardment of only a few days, the cause must be attributed to their antiquated construction and to the bad state of defence in which they mostly were. They were specially defective in guns of great calibre. Germany herself, it is observed, is not yet sufficiently provided with these. The total sum required for the contemplated fortifications is 68,000,000 thalers; but 28,000,000 more is needed for the fortresses of Alsace-Lorraine; thus making a total of 96,000,000 of thalers. Nearly a third of the former sum will be devoted to works of defence on the Russian frontier, and another third is destined for the completion of the fortifications begun on the coasts of the Baltic and North Sea and at the mouths of the Elbe, the Jahde, and Weser. On the southern frontier only Ulm and Rastatt are to be strengthened. From which it appears the German Empire does not fear attack from the side of Austria, as the frontier line between

the latter and Bavaria is left unfortified. The whole of Bavaria has only one fortress, Ingolstadt, situated in the middle of the country, and, according to the Prussian view, it is useless."

"DURING the past week," says the *London Broad Arrow*, "Major-General Wardlaw, commanding the Curragh District, introduced the German war game in the Curragh camp. The mode of procedure was as follows: A map of the scene of operations was placed on the table, scale six inches to the mile; across the centre hung a curtain, and at a distance of two yards, i. e., twelve miles on each side of the barrier, the metal soldiers were ranged in columns of route. The umpire published a general idea, which gave the combatants an objective, and insured a combat, whilst the antagonists published special orders affecting the march of their troops. It soon became evident that in Kriegspiel the umpire has no sinecure. He not only must have a most intimate knowledge of the mode of procedure in actual warfare, but he must be a perfect master of the recognized rules. It is for the umpire to see that no liberty is taken with the metallic property of the armies—what flesh and blood can do is alone lawful. It is for the umpire to give notice when a vidette in an actual campaign would be able to pierce the curtain barrier. When the armies or detachments come into collision, the umpire decides the odds in favor of one side over the other, through superiority of numbers, position, or tactical formation. Then the actual loss is estimated by the throwing of dice. In his preliminary remarks the brigade-major pointed out three most useful lessons to be learned by the game—viz.: the art of an umpire, the use of a map, the bounds of human possibility; and attention was specially directed to the distances taken up by troops on roads in column of route, in order to illustrate the advantage of using every available means of communication. As a matter of course, the tin blocks of soldiers are drawn exactly to scale, and evidently it is a work of time to deploy—say 3,000 infantry into battle order from its column en route. On the map the regulated distances were preserved, but it is notorious that in service the troops are wont to open out two-thirds more than their proper length of column. On Wednesday a very interesting engagement of advanced guards took place, but the small hours arrived before a general engagement could be brought off. We are informed that Major-General Wardlaw intends forming a war game association in camp. It is only fair to acknowledge that progress is the characteristic feature of the present administration in our Irish camp of military instruction.

THE *Portland Oregonian* of February 26 says: We are informed that a committee, consisting of three or four persons, arrived in this city a few days ago from the Western States. The object of the visit is to look at the country with a view of selecting a locality for the permanent settlement of a colony of soldiers and their families. This committee represents about three hundred families who reside in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. The heads of these families fought in the late civil war in various capacities. Most of them belonged to the same companies or regiments, and as that soldierly attachment exists among them which naturally results from association and sharing the fortunes and vicissitudes of the camp and campaign, they desire to emigrate to some desirable locality and settle a colony. The colony intend to settle either in Kansas or Oregon.

SOME time during Wednesday night, March 26, three United States private marines, who had been sentenced by Court-martial to one year's imprisonment at the Marine Barracks, Flushing avenue, Brooklyn, made their escape by using their iron bedstead as a ladder, and cutting a hole through the roof of their prison. They also broke through a brick wall adjoining the prison, and carried off about forty flannel blouses, three overcoats, and a number of shirts, in all worth \$250. The men's names are Frederick Rose, Thomas R. Rolin, and Joseph H. Dearing. Major Broome has offered a reward of \$20 each for their delivery to him as prisoners at the barracks.

GENERAL WHITTLESEY, formerly quartermaster of the Freedmen's Bureau, March 25 was conveyed to the Government Insane Asylum in Washington. The General has been suffering for some time past with paralysis, and went to the Asylum for treatment under the advice of his physicians and friends.

THREE deserters from the U. S. Army named Charles Arnold, Frank West, and Jules Danneard, who escaped from Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, on March 22, were arrested in Springfield, Mass., on the 24th, and sent to Boston on the following day.

MRS. BUDWAY, of White Plains, N. Y., has had a Grover & Baker Machine six years, during which time she has earned on it five hundred dollars, besides doing her family sewing, and has used only one dozen needles.

## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of FIFTY CENTS each.]

DAY—MASTER.—At the English church, Nice, France, March 3, 1873, by Rev. C. Childers, WM. P. DAY, U. S. Navy, to JENNIFER MARIA ELIZA GRACE, only daughter of the late Major Whally Master, Seventh Bengal Light Cavalry, and grand-daughter of the late Rear-Admiral James Master, Royal Navy, Sion Hill, Bath, England.

LAYTON—BENEDICT.—On March 12, in the Presbyterian church, St. Augustine, Florida, by the Rev. Charles O. Reynolds, Brevet Major U. S. Army, Captain Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, to CLARA H., daughter of the late Dr. N. D. Benedict. (No cards.)

## DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the editor.

COLLINS.—At Grand River, Dakota Territory, February 28 EMILY VIRGINIA, youngest daughter of Captain Edward Collins Seventeenth U. S. Infantry.